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Preview

Today's 16-page entertainment guide *Preview* offers a glimpse of the new musical *Guys and Dolls*—plus what is best in films, television drama and a guide to weekends away.

Fraser quits Harrods group

Sir Hugh Fraser resigned yesterday as a director of the House of Fraser, Britain's largest stores group, from which he was dismissed as chairman more than a year ago.

His move to leave the group, which owns Harrods and was built up by his father, is said to have stunned fellow directors, many of whom he appointed, but who voted him out as chairman last January.

Sir Hugh played a key role in the boardroom manoeuvres that eventually led to a takeover bid from the trading conglomerate Lonrho, headed by Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland, which was thwarted after a Monopolies Commission investigation.

Business News, page 15

MPs' salvo on Invincible

Conservative MPs criticized the sale of the Invincible, one of the Royal Navy's most powerful ships, to Australia at a "knock-down" price of £175m. In Melbourne the Labour Opposition threatened to sell the carrier if it returned to power

Back page
Sea change, page 4

Profits rise but ICI is gloomy

ICI, Britain's biggest manufacturing group, which is an acknowledged indicator of industry's health, said that it could see little evidence of better times ahead despite a £51m rise in its profits last year Page 15

Reagan rethinks nuclear cuts

The Reagan Administration is working on a radical proposal for substantial reductions in the strategic nuclear arsenals of the United States and the Soviet Union, according to American officials in Washington Page 5

£20,000 award to J. P. R. Williams

J. P. R. Williams, the Welsh rugby player, has been awarded £20,000 in libel damages in the High Court. He sued *The Daily Telegraph*, Mr William Deedes, the editor, and Mr John Reason, the newspaper's former rugby correspondent, over articles branding him a "shamateur"

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Rees-Mogg to be arts chairman

Sir William Rees-Mogg, vice-chairman of the BBC and former editor of *The Times*, is to be the next chairman of the Arts Council in succession to Mr Kenneth Robinson, who completes five years as chairman next month.

Hull City are up for sale

Hull City, unable to stem losses of £9,000 a week, have called in a receiver and will be put up for sale. It is hoped that the fourth division club will be bought as a going concern Page 19

Leader page 11
Letters: On TV by satellite, from Mr George Howard, and Mr Norman Collins; industry loans plan, from Mr Leslie Priestley; Oxford, from Dr Brian Thwaites.
Leading articles: Soviet grain; BBC; caning children.
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David Watt on the Labour Party's phoney peace; how the investigative reporter has turned from hero to villain.
Obituary, page 12
Mr Nikolay Andreyev, Mr George Savage.
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Parents win right to ban school beatings

By Lucy Hodges

British parents have the right to refuse to allow their children to be beaten at school, the European Court of Human Rights ruled in Strasbourg yesterday.

In a judgment which will have far-reaching effects in British schools and could herald the end of corporal punishment in this country, the judges decided by six votes to one that the United Kingdom had broken the European Convention on Human Rights. This is the eighth time the court has found this country in breach of the convention.

The decision, from which Sir Vincent Evans, the British judge, dissented, was greeted yesterday with a marked lack of enthusiasm by the teachers' unions. Those campaigning for abolition of the cane were exultant and the Society of Teachers Opposed to Physical Punishment (Stopp), said it was writing to the Government immediately to ask for beating to be banned.

Mr Tom Scott, education secretary of Stopp, said he thought the verdict would deal a death blow to corporal punishment.

"This is the best day in the 14-year history of Stopp", he said. "We are absolutely delighted. It is a tremendous day also for children, parents, teachers and society as a whole, because corporal punishment is not only nasty and humiliating, it is counter-productive.

"This judgment will remove fear from the education system. Schools are going to be better places, better for teachers and for children."

Mr David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, said the decision would put heads in a difficult position in which some parents would opt for their children not to be beaten and others would not. "This could undermine the sanction", he said.

"Whether you are talking about corporal punishment or any other sanction, you cannot have one section of pupils who may be subject to punishment and another section who cannot be punished." The judgment did not ban caning, he said. "My advice to members is carry on caning. The judgment does not alter the situation in England and Wales at all."

He called on the Government to declare whether it was going to recognize the judgment or not. The Department of Education has refused to say anything until it has studied the decision.

Mr Fred Jarvis, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said it was all very well for judges sitting in Strasbourg to make pronouncements but they did not have to work in our schools. This decision would add to teachers' problems, he said.

The judges were considering two complaints from Scottish women, Mrs Grace Campbell, of Glasgow and Mrs Jane Cosans, of Fife, about the use of the Scottish tawse, a leather strap applied to the palm of the hand.

Their sons were not actually beaten, which was why the judges did not find they had been subjected to torture or inhuman treatment. But they did rule that because the parents could not have their children taught "in conformity with their own religious and philosophical convictions" this was a breach of the convention.

Mrs Campbell's case was based on the refusal of Strathclyde regional education authority, which has since decided to ban the tawse, to promise that her son, then aged 11, would not be beaten.

Mrs Cosans's son was told to report for the belt after he had broken a school rule. He refused and was suspended from school, and Fife regional education authority refused to guarantee that he would not be beaten.

Britain is the last country in Europe to continue to beat schoolchildren and the Government will be in a quandary about how to meet the judgment.

Sir Vincent Evans, in his dissenting opinion, said the court's judgment would be costly and impractical to implement.

Strasbourg judgment, page 2
Leading article, page 11

Directors support Murdoch job cuts

By Donald Macintyre

The 12-member board of Times Newspapers Holdings Ltd (TNHL) yesterday gave full backing to the current moves by Mr Rupert Murdoch, proprietor of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* to reduce manning at both newspapers.

The TNHL statement issued after a two-hour meeting said the board had "unanimously supported the steps being taken by Mr Murdoch and management to resolve the Times Group's industrial problems". It had also unanimously agreed that "consideration of all other matters be deferred until the resolution of those problems".

This was taken to mean that the board, which includes the five independent national directors, had deferred a decision of the transfer of the newspapers' titles to News International, the parent company, until the present crisis is resolved. However the management declined to elaborate on its statement.

The company also announced last night that it had reached agreement with two groups of machine room employees, as Mr Murdoch repeated his call for fresh volunteers for redundancy in a personal letter sent to the homes of clerical employees. Applications, which he guaranteed would remain confidential, should be sent in by March 3.

The TNHL statement said that the board had recognized that there were "two major requirements for continuing production of the two newspapers". These were to bring about adequate reductions in manning and the need for the "continuing financial support of News International".

It appeared that for the time being the titles would remain in Times Newspapers Ltd, the company which publishes both newspapers. They were transferred to the ownership of News International Ltd, the parent company in December but switched back again to TNL last week.

The company's progress towards ending 900 shifts was assisted yesterday by agreement with the National Society of Operative Printers Graphical and Media Personnel (Natsopa) on the reduction of a total of 168 shifts in *The Sunday Times* machine chapel and the Times Newspapers day chapel.

Mr Kenneth Ashton, general secretary of the National Union of Journalists, yesterday said his union could not "endorse the concept of compulsory redundancies whether they be issued to journalists or fellow trade unionists".

'Intimidation' row, page 2

Amersham may be last state bonanza

By Julian Haviland
Political Editor

The Government, embarrassed by the heavy oversubscription for shares in Amersham International and the anger of the Opposition in Parliament, is to consider selling state-owned companies by tender in future, so as to realize their full value.

This was conceded with evident reluctance by the Prime Minister in the Commons yesterday under heavy pressure from Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition, who said it was a scandal that State assets should be put on the market and sold at knock-down prices.

Mr Foot added, to Labour cheers and Conservative protests, that some of Mrs Margaret Thatcher's advisers who gave wrong advice on the sale of the shares had made "at least a million pounds out of it".

Particulars of the offer for sale of Amersham, a highly successful company which makes radioactive isotopes for medical and industrial uses, show that the two merchant banks which handled the sale, N.M. Rothschild and Sons and Morgan Grenfell and Co, are to receive fees of £1,155,000 from the Secretary of State for Energy and £132,000 from the company, from which they pay underwriting commission and fees to brokers.

The Labour Party, hostile from the start to the sale of Amersham, is indignant that the setting of too lower a price for the shares has resulted in an apparent loss to the taxpayer of up to £20m.

Mr Foot pressed Mr Francis Pym, Leader of the Commons, for a debate because of "gross injury to the national credit" and to ensure that the same thing did not happen again, particularly when the oil exploration and production business of the British National Oil Corporation comes to be marketed, under the Oil and Gas (Enterprise) Bill now before Parliament. This will be the biggest sale of public assets to the private sector.

The offer for sale at 142p per share of 50 million ordinary shares of 25p, of which 44,860,000 belonged to the Government, was subscribed last week 24.6 times by applications from Amersham employees, who were offered special terms, and by the public.

Ministers are more sensitive in private to the charge of mishandling the sale than they care to show publicly.

☐ Amersham International's Stock Market debut turned out to be one for the record book yesterday. The company was last night valued at £94.5m—£23.5m above the Government's sale price (Our Financial Staff writes).

The trading floor was opened 10 minutes earlier to allow dealers to form the usual scrummage.

By the close of business last night it was estimated that nearly 25 million of the original 50 million shares had changed hands.

Dr Stuart Burgess, the group's managing director and chief executive, who was in the visitors' gallery, refused to comment about his reaction to the jump in share price. He said he would not be selling any of his 2,500 shares.

The premium achieved by Amersham far exceeds any of the Government's other recent sell-offs. British Aerospace, which came to market last February, opened with a premium of 25p over the offer price of 175p and Cable & Wireless could only muster a 30p premium over the offer price of 168p.

☐ A Rothschilds spokesman said last night (the Press Association reports): "It is easy to judge with hindsight. With the benefit of hindsight one can say that the price was too low.

"It is irrefutable that, on the evidence we have today, the issue could have been done at a higher price".

But he stressed: "At the time, the price, if anything, appeared to be a little reckless".

Diagnosis for success, page 15

Scourge of husbands, saviour of animals



Mr James Dorling, aged 60, who retires today as High Court Tipstaff in London. During his 17 years in the job he has restored scores of missing children to their parents, arrested hundreds of wife-beaters, tracked down a cat used in a television commercial and taken charge of circus animals.

New Begin tirade against Schmidt

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, Feb 25

Diplomatic relations between Israel and West Germany suffered another serious blow today when Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, launched his second vitriolic personal attack in less than a year against Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, and his war record.

Mr Begin issued a statement refusing to apologize to Herr Schmidt for comments he made about him during the Israeli election campaign in May.

"I will not apologize to Mr Schmidt. Rather, I counsel him, speaking as a free man who fought for the continued existence and the liberation of the Jewish people, that he take an example from his predecessor, Mr Brandt, visit Warsaw, got to the site where the Jewish ghetto once stood, go down on his knees and ask the forgiveness of the Jewish people."

Mr Begin urged Herr Schmidt to seek forgiveness from "all nations loving justice and liberty for what his countrymen perpetrated under the National Socialist regime against my people at the time when Mr Schmidt remained faithful to the personal oath he had given to Adolf Hitler, as a soldier and officer in his army".

The outburst was prompted by a report in the Hebrew newspaper *Yedioth Aharonoth*, which quoted Herr Schmidt as saying that Mr Begin must apologize for his remarks last May, or he would not visit Israel.

[This was denied by Bonn, whose spokesman said the report was "a pure product of fantasy".—Reuter.]

The original attack was made after Herr Schmidt was reported to have said during a visit to Saudi Arabia that West Germany had an obligation to the Arabs.

Today Mr Begin said: "Mr Schmidt mentioned Auschwitz and said that he acknowledges the obligation of Germany towards a number of peoples—but the Jewish people was not listed amongst them. Mr Schmidt spoke of Germany's obligation towards the Palestinians and said not a word of Germany's obligation towards the Jewish people.

"I said in a speech that according to a report I got, Mr Schmidt, as a lieutenant in Hitler's army, was among the viewers of a film showing the hanging by piano wire of German officers who had rebelled against the National Socialist regime."

Mr Begin said that although it had subsequently been pointed out to him that Herr Schmidt had not participated in the screening of the film, he had been invited to and participated in "a trial presided over by the infamous Nazi judge Freisler".

"... I will not hesitate to admit the error concerning the film. However, participation in the above-mentioned Nazi trial is of itself a most grave event in the biography of one of the tens of thousands of German officers during the Holocaust."

☐ Others who have felt the lash of Mr Begin's tongue include the former French President, M Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, who was accused with Herr Schmidt of "unbridled greed and hypocrisy" in dealings with the Arabs.

Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, and Sir Ian Gilmour, then his deputy, were described last year as "no friends of Israel". On Sir Ian, Mr Begin added: "He is not only an anti-Zionist, he has negative feelings which go much deeper—I don't want to use other words."

Media accused, page 8

Car workers asked to take pay cut

By Rupert Morris

Workers at Aston Martin Lagonda's plant at Newport Pagnell, Buckinghamshire, have been asked to take a wage cut to enable the luxury sports-car maker to achieve financial viability. Their average pay is £145 a week.

Aston Martin has a history of financial problems since 1975 when, with government help, it was rescued by a consortium.

Mr Tony Penman, chairman of the works committee, confirmed that wage cuts had been suggested, but was reluctant to give details.

Both he and the company denied reports that workers had been told that the company would face closure if the workforce did not agree to wage cuts of as much as £50 for each worker.

How the old town hall has changed

By David Hewson

Mr Hugh Dewing, chief executive of the London Borough of Islington, sat in the echoing emptiness of his town hall looking for all the world like a character who had escaped from Mr Jim Allen's television play *United Kingdom*.

"Who is still working normally?" I asked.

"Me." It was a joking reply, but in a sense an accurate one.

Mr Dewing may still be chief executive and acting as such, but at that moment his borough architect was putting down sleeping bags for children whose council home had been closed, and a senior member of the legal department was helping out on the switchboard.

It is less than three months since defecting Labour members turned the borough into the first local authority in the country to be controlled by the Social Democrats. The new morning has dawned and it is one, not of conciliation, common sense and optimism, but of rancour, hatred and division.

This borough of tattiness and trendiness, where elegant Georgian facade stands cheek by jowl with down-at-heel post-war drabness and squalor, is now caught in a melodramatic struggle between elected councillor and local authority employee which has few parallels.

More than 1,000 of its 3,000 workforce are on strike over a convoluted issue unconnected with the one which originally took them out onto the streets.

The borough's SDP leadership, in reality the old Labour leadership under a new banner, is preparing for a long hard fight in the knowledge that even if the present issue is resolved, more potentially dramatic ones are on the horizon.

"We are very overmanned in some places, all big organizations get to this stage", says Mr James Evans, the council leader. "It was all right in the seventies when there was plenty of money around and the Government was throwing money at local authorities. Now that is over."

Next week, without the benefit of the town hall computer which has been shut down by the strike, the council intends to work out next year's rate. It is a crucial issue for the elections due in May; Islington has one of the highest rate levels in London, and the council is well aware that the size of the rise could decide the election.

Mr Evans says the result will be an increase of less than 15 per cent. After removing the outside elements of the rise and taking inflation into account, that means Islington will be reducing its rate slightly. Quite how this feat is to be achieved has yet to be explained.

Mr Evans is more than ready to talk of savings which can be effected without altering staffing levels, but redundancies and reorganizations are clearly on the way, to be bitterly opposed by the local authority unions led by Nalgo.

Continued on back page, col 5

Russians turn to Argentina

By Our Foreign Staff

The big shortfall in the Soviet harvest for the third year running has led the Russians to make massive purchases of Argentine grain, pushing the Soviet trade balance with the Third World as a whole into deficit for the first time recorded.

The latest available Soviet statistics, for the first nine months of 1981, show that imports from Argentina had more than doubled compared with the similar period of 1980. But the pattern of massive grain purchases has continued into this year.

This is part of the widening circle of effects now being caused by the Soviet failure to grow enough food. Western experts have also noted a slowing down in the completion of Soviet contracts for expected technology and consumer goods projects, particularly with West Germany and France, as the Soviet Union seeks to conserve vital foreign currency to buy grain.

Another sign of the Russians' acute need for hard currency and other key imports is their significant selling of gold, diamonds and oil at a time when world prices have been falling.

In the first nine months of 1981, official Soviet figures show imports from Argentina of 2,068m roubles (about £1,420m). Moscow buys meat and wool from Buenos Aires, but grain makes up the bulk of sales. For the corresponding period of 1980, Russian imports from the same country were valued at only 891m roubles.

Recently published figures show that, from January to September, 1981, Soviet exports to the developing nations were 6,100m roubles, but imports exceeded that at 6,300m roubles. In the similar period for 1980, the reverse was true, with exports at 4,600m roubles and imports at 3,800m roubles. Experts believe that the changed pattern is explained by the surge in purchases from Argentina.

The Soviet Communist Party is expected to give the total figures for the 1981 harvest at the special agricultural plenum expected to be held in April, the first for four years.

ABut reliable Soviet sources have been telling Western correspondents in Moscow that the harvest last year was 170
But reliable Soviet sources million tonnes; 66 million tonnes below target. This figure is not as bad as some Western forecasts suggested.

In another move, which has taken American trade officials by surprise, the Soviet Union has suddenly resumed big purchases of United States grain after a gap of several months—and the officials believe that further purchases may be made.

President Reagan has said he will not reintroduce a grain embargo except in the extreme circumstances of a general embargo against the Soviet Union. However, the present low prices are an expression of fears in the market that the Administration eventually will have to use the "grain weapon".

Leading article, page 11

New lorry weight limits expected to be modified

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, is expected to announce next month that he has dropped his proposals to increase maximum lorry weights to 40 tonnes and to allow four-axle articulated vehicles to run at 34 tonnes instead of the present maximum of 32.5 tonnes.

Instead, he is likely to ask for a maximum weight, for five axle vehicles, of 38 tonnes.

The expected concessions come after consultations between Mr Howell and officers of the Conservative backbench transport committee, since the revolt by Tory MPs in December against his White Paper

It became apparent then that the proposals as they stood would not get through the Commons. The transport committee officers have been pressing a number of compromises on Mr Howell in an attempt to make his package more palatable to backbench opinion.

One option put forward was for the 40-tonne lorry to be allowed, but that two of the five axles should be driven. Another, the one Mr Howell is now expected to accept, was that the maximum weight should be 38 tonnes with only one of the five axles driven. A third was for 38-tonne lorries, with two axles driven. Tests have proved that with two axles being driven there is less road damage.

The Conservative critics have told Mr Howell that his proposal to allow four-axle lorries to run at 34 tonnes would be unlikely to get through, because of the greater road damage they say it would cause.

Mr Howell has been trying to mollify his critics with a series of measures, including the announcement of eight new by-passes being added or restored to the Government's trunk road programme.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

BR talks go to next stage

British Rail and two of the railway unions yesterday formally "failed to agree" in negotiations about flexible rostering. They will now move to the next stage in the timetable of talks laid down by the McCarthy inquiry.

All three rail unions will meet British Rail next week, probably on Monday under the auspices of the Railways Staff National Council. If there is again no agreement, as seems likely, the issue of rostering will go next month to the Railway Staff National Tribunal, also headed by Lord McCarthy.

The meeting yesterday of the Railway Staff Joint Council lasted barely 30 minutes. Mr Raymond Buckton, general secretary of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen (Aslef) said as he left the meeting that there could be no agreement because British Rail's proposals include elimination of the guaranteed eight-hour day, which Aslef has said it regards as sacrosanct.

A strike by guards at Southend severely disrupted services to and from Liverpool Street, in the Eastern Region, yesterday.

Burnet top TV journalist

Alastair Burnet, of Independent Television News, was the winner of the top award for television journalism in the annual awards announced in London last night by the Royal Television Society.

A second ITN man, Jon Snow, is named as winner of the international news category for his reports from El Salvador and Tim Sebastian, of the BBC, becomes television journalist of the year for his work in Poland.

Kate Adey accepted the award presented to BBC News for its coverage of the Guiney funeral in Northern Ireland.

(home), ATV's "Silent Minority", Nigel Evans's exploration of the problems of long-stay mental hospitals; current affairs (international), Granada Television's "World in Action" for the programme, "These Are My Children" daily news magazine, BBC North West for "Look North West", a report on the Toxteth riots; television cameraman of the year, Mahmoud Oskoui, of Visnews, for work of consistent and spectacular excellence in the Middle East, especially Tehran.

'Resign' call to Lady Simey

Merseyside police yesterday demanded the resignation of Lady Simey, aged 76, chairman of the county's police committee, after her allegations to a Common's select committee on Wednesday of police intimidation and victimization of complainants.

Mr Fred Jones, chairman of the county's police federation, who called an emergency meeting of the executive, said afterwards: "It was a unanimous decision. We feel we can no longer work with her."

Soldier on glue sniffing charge

A soldier believed to be the first to be charged under military law with sniffing glue appeared at a court martial at Bulford Camp, Wiltshire, yesterday.

Royal Artillery gunner Stephen Beckwith was said to have been found glazed and incoherent over a tin of powerful solvent while on leave from the Second Field Regiment, based at Larkhill, Salisbury Plain. Beckwith pleads not guilty to contravening the Army Act with conduct prejudicial to good order.

The hearing continues today.

Leaflets attack Hitler play

Leaflets attacking *The Portage to San Cristobal of AH*, the new play about Hitler at the Mermaid Theatre, in London, accusing it of encouraging antisemitism and defending Hitler's persecution of the Jews, have been handed to the theatre's management for distribution to the audience.

The leaflets reproduce an article in today's *Jewish Chronicle*, written by Mr Martin Gilbert, the historian.

Bus revenue cuts rate rise

An increase in the use of West Yorkshire buses enabled the county council yesterday to announce a cut in its proposed rate from 46.8p recommended in January, to 44.5p, an increase of 18.4 per cent over 1981-82.

Peterborough, accused of overmanning and wasteful spending, is cutting its rates by 20 per cent. But the reduction of 7p will be offset by a 6p increase from Cambridgeshire County Council.

Humberside County Council has approved a rate of 153p, an increase of 43 per cent.

'No' to Civil Service offer

An attempt by the Institution of Professional Civil Servants, to press for the removal of the chairman of the Civil Service arbitration tribunal, Mr David Calcutt, QC, was defeated yesterday at a meeting of the nine unions in the service.

The Council of Civil Service Unions, the umbrella body which represents 520,000 white-collar employees, also rejected the Government's "market forces" pay offer, which ranges from no increase to one of 5.5 per cent. The offer will now go to arbitration.

Haughey retains leadership as challenge fails

From Richard Ford, Dublin

Mr Charles Haughey was unanimously elected as Fianna Fail candidate for the Irish premiership at yesterday's meeting of the parliamentary party, which saw the challenge to his position collapse amid calls for unity.

The end of Mr Desmond O'Malley's leadership challenge came half way through the meeting, only hours after he had announced formally that he would stand.

Mr O'Malley, a former Cabinet minister, withdrew his name after the party's 81 MPs had heard senior figures urge that nothing should be done which would undermine Fianna Fail's chances of forming the republic's next minority government.

Yesterday's events brought a rare intervention from Mr Jack Lynch, the former Fianna Fail leader, who resigned in 1979 after backbench plots which eventually gave Mr Haughey the leadership.

Mr Lynch said Mr O'Malley had been right to let his name go forward in the light of "numerous requests" from party members after Fianna Fail failed to win an overall majority.

The statement was interpreted last night as an attempt by Mr Lynch to rally party members demoralized by yesterday's events.

After the vote in Leinster House an elated Mr Haughey said he had never worried about the challenge.

But the criticism will continue and he still must win independent support if Fianna Fail is to form the next government on March 9.

The collapse of the attempt to oust Mr Haughey is a serious blow to Mr O'Malley, who yesterday announced his decision to stand after four days of speculation. Most serious is his withdrawal of the challenge less than 12 hours after publicly throwing down the gauntlet.

□ The Northern Ireland Department of Health and Social Services yesterday received an official public rebuke for failing to exercise effective financial control over four regional boards which last year spent more than £447m (Anthony Bevins writes).

A White Paper summary of accounts for 1980-81, published yesterday, carried a report from Mr Denis Calvert, the Comptroller and Auditor General, pointing out that seven separate criticisms had been made.

Weaknesses included stores control, with disparities between actual stocks and computer records; a high incidence of overtime and salary overpayments; delays in recovering "considerable amounts due from staff for meals, private functions and telephone calls", the free issue of foodstuffs to staff and others, "serious shortcomings in the procedures for the granting of car loans to staff"; and a lack of action in identifying the amount of public funding for a sports club.

The White Paper said the department regarded the general standard of financial control as reasonably satisfactory, and that weaknesses would be followed up.

But Mr Calvert said: "I have noted that several of these matters were also mentioned in the appointed auditor's reports for previous years, so that the department's follow-up has not always been effective".

'Intimidation' row at Times newspapers

By Staff Reporters

Clerical workers in several departments of *The Times* and *Sunday Times* yesterday spoke of intimidation by their chapel to prevent people coming forward for voluntary redundancy to meet the company's request for a reduction of 210 in clerical numbers.

Members of the National Society of Operative Printers, Graphical and Media Personnel (Natsopa) in editorial personnel, library, tele-ads and copy-takers departments, said many more would have come forward but for the threat they would lose their union cards.

The company has said that the 210 who have received dismissal notices would have them withdrawn if enough volunteers came forward to replace them: voluntary redundancy carries more generous terms. And yesterday Mr Rupert Murdoch, chairman of TNL, sent clerical staff a personal letter promising strict confidentiality for volunteers.

Despite assurances by national union officials to the contrary, Natsopa branch officials told clerical workers at the meeting on Wednesday, which voted to reject the company's redundancy offer, that cards would be removed.

"That is the main stumbling block," one male clerical worker said. "But even so, if we had had a secret ballot on the motion of rejection, the result would have been very different."

Differences of opinion

Many people abstained because they were afraid of being "marked out" for speaking against the line of the meeting, he said. "It is very frightening; if you do speak out; people are hostile and jeer at you."

Most clerical workers did not wish to be quoted by name. A branch official had already said that one member, Miss Mary Fogarty who opposed the motion, should be "branched" or disciplined.

Wide differences of opinion emerged more strongly yesterday. Some said the vote supporting chapel officials was 6-4 in favour, others 9-1 and a number of staff in different departments denied there had been any pressure. Mr Barry Fitzpatrick, father (shop steward) of *The Sunday Times* clerical chapel denied intimidation: "I cannot see how an argument about principle can be classed as intimidation".

Mr Fitzpatrick agreed that one union official might have spoken at the meeting of union members never working again in Fleet Street but said that the whole theme of his own argument was that rules were a side-issue in comparison with the major issues involved.

An editorial secretary told how at the meeting, members who had put in for voluntary redundancy were invited to withdraw their application. "We were told: there is no need to feel ashamed; that it was quite understandable that people had been tempted, but that it was a mistake and they now must cancel it."

The union line was that members were "selling other people's jobs" and that those wanting voluntary redundancy were "scum", "money-grubbing" and "greedy."

Another secretary said: "Many of us felt so angry yesterday because there was not time for a proper debate; and we suddenly had to vote on a motion which many people did not properly understand."

Mrs Chris Chesterman, a Natsopa member in the personnel department who put forward a motion saying that people should be allowed to opt for redundancy if they wanted to, said she felt she would have got more support with a secret ballot.

"In the end I think I got a fair hearing, but I had to push for it. They first said it had to be read out then submitted in writing, then it couldn't be put as an amendment to the main motion and so on. They hauled me over the coals; it was pretty nerve-wracking."

One secretary, aged 29, who declined to be named, described the chapel meeting as "nothing short of blackmail" and said that Miss Ann Field, a full-time Natsopa branch official, had told the meeting that anybody applying for voluntary redundancy under rule 44 would "definitely not work again in Fleet Street".

She added: "I would like to volunteer and not be told that it is against union policy and I am going to lose my card. Very little was said from the point of view opposed to the platform. People are afraid when they are at a union meeting."

Her feelings were "widely shared", she claimed. "I thing a lot more people are going to return the new notices being sent to their own homes than Mr Fitzpatrick would believe or like."

Half a dozen staff in the correspondence department, which deals with post and messages, denied intimidation and declared themselves firmly behind chapel policy.

One man, who like his colleagues declined to be named, said: "The only pressure has come from the company seeking 210 redundancies. There has been none on the union side." The same message came from four women on the TNL switchboard who between them have worked 51 years for the company. They accused staff considering voluntary redundancy of being "parasites" wanting to "sell their jobs" and said the switchboard would be almost unworkable if 16 of the 22 jobs had to go.

Another operator said: "Some of the critics have only been here two or three years. I have been in the print since I was 15. All this business about being intimidated is making us sick. You can't intimidate people of our age."

Mr Murdoch's letter said that the terms on offer—which range from a minimum of 12 weeks pay to a maximum of £25,000—would very often mean payments of more than four times the statutory scale. It added: "I urge all of you who wish to volunteer to do so and to ignorme unreasonable and short-sighted opposition to what we propose".

Promise of secrecy

The letter said that applications for redundancy would be collected for Mr Murdoch personally from a Post Office box number. "I can assure that your application will be treated in strict confidence and will n tobe brought into this building. Your name will not be disclosed without your prior approval and you will not be approached until we are guaranteed by your union in writing that your chances of future employment are not jeoparadised."

A chapel circular issued yesterday described Mr Murdoch's appeal as a "deliberate attempt to by-pass your union regarding this matter".

Strasbourg judgment extracts

Personal beliefs on caning upheld

Summary of the judgment by the European Court of Human Rights on corporal punishment (applicants: Mrs Grace Campbell and Mrs Jane Cosans).

Second sentence of article 2 of Protocol No 1

1. The court recalled that a contracting state is bound to respect parents' philosophical convictions in the exercise of each and every function which it assumes in relation to education and to teaching. Contrary to the Government's submission, the court held, inter alia, that in Scotland the functions assumed by the state, which had undertaken responsibility for formulating general education policy, extended to questions of discipline in general, discipline being an integral part of any educational system.

2. The expression, "philosophical convictions", was not, in the court's view, capable of exhaustive definition but, in the context of article 2, it denoted views which attained a certain level of cogency, seriousness, cohesion and importance, were worthy of respect in a democratic society, were not incompatible with human dignity and did not conflict with a fundamental right of a child to education. The applicants' views on corporal punishment satisfied these various criteria and did therefore, contrary to the Government's submission, amount to "philosophical convictions".

3. The court rejected the Government's plea that the policy of moving gradually towards the abolition of corporal punishment was in itself sufficient to comply with the duty to "respect" philosophical convictions.

The court also did not regard it as established that any other solution would necessarily be incompatible with the United Kingdom's reservation to article 2, on which the Government had relied, whereby the obligation to respect philosophical convictions had been accepted only so far as it was compatible with "the provision of efficient instruction and training, and the avoidance of unreasonable public expenditure".

The court agrees with the commission that neither of these two extremes can be adopted for the purposes of interpreting article 2: the former would too narrowly restrict the scope of a right that is guaranteed to all parents and the latter might result on the inclusion of matters of insufficient weight or substance.

Having regard to the convention as a whole, including article 17, the expression, "philosophical convictions", in the present context denotes, in the court's opinion, such convictions as are worthy of respect in a "democratic society" (see, most recently, the Young, James and Webster judgment of August 13, 1981, series A, No 44 p25, para 63) and are not incompatible with human dignity; in addition, they must not conflict with the fundamental right of the child to education, the whole of article 2 being dominated by its first sentence (see the above - mentioned Kjeldsen, Busk Madsen and Pedersen judgment, pp25-26, para 52).

The applicants' views relate to a weighty and substantial aspect of human life and behaviour, namely the integrity of the person, the propriety or otherwise of the infliction of corporal punishment and the exclusion of the distress which the risk of such punishment entails. They are views which satisfy each of the various criteria listed above; it is this that distinguishes them from opinions that might be held on other methods of discipline or on discipline in general.

4. The court accordingly concluded, by six votes to one, that both applicants had been victims of a violation of the second sentence of Article 2.

First sentence of Article 2 of Protocol No 1.

1. Jeffrey Cosans's suspension had been motivated by his and his parents' refusal to accept that he receive or be liable to corporal chastisement. His return to school could have been secured only if his parents had acted contrary to their convictions, which the United Kingdom was obliged to respect under the second sentence of Article 2.

The right to education, guaranteed by the first sentence of article 2, by its very nature calls for regulation by the state, but such regulation must never injure the substance of the right or conflict with other rights enshrined in the convention or its protocols (see the judgment of July 23, 1968, on the merits of the "Belgian linguistic" case, series A, no 6, p 32, para 5).

The suspension of Jeffrey Cosans, which remained in force for nearly a whole school year, was motivated by his and his parents' refusal to accept that he receive or be liable to corporal chastisement.

His return to school could have been secured only if his parents had acted contrary to their convictions, convictions which the United Kingdom is obliged to respect under the second sentence of article 2. A condition of access to an educational establishment that conflicts in this way with another right enshrined in protocol no 1 cannot be described as reasonable and in any event falls outside the state's power of regulation under article 2.

2. The court accordingly concluded, by six votes to one, that there had also been, as regards Jeffrey Cosans, breach of the first sentence of article 2.

Article 3 of the convention

1. The court, which did not in this case have to consider an actual application of corporal punishment, observed firstly that, provided it was sufficiently real and immediate, a mere threat of conduct prohibited by article 3 might violate that provision.

2. Applying its previous case-law, the court found that the situation in which the applicants' sons had found themselves did not amount to "torture" or "inhuman treatment". Furthermore, it would not constitute "degrading treatment" unless they had undergone, in the eyes of others or in their own eyes, humiliation or debasement attaining a minimum level of severity that had to be assessed with regard to the circumstances of the case.

3. Corporal chastisement is traditional in Scottish schools and, indeed, appears to be favoured by a large majority of parents. Of itself, this is not conclusive of the issue before the court, for the threat of a particular measure is not excluded from the category of "degrading", within the meaning of Article 3, simply because the measure has been in use for a long time or even meets with general approval.

However, particularly in view of the above-mentioned circumstances obtaining in Scotland, it is not established that pupils at a school where such punishment is used are, solely by reason of the risk of being subjected thereto, humiliated or debased in the eyes of others to the requisite degree, or at all.

As to whether the applicants' sons were humiliated or debased in their own eyes, the court observes first that a threat directed to an exceptionally insensitive person may have no significant effect on him but nevertheless be incontrovertibly degrading, and conversely, an exceptionally sensitive person might be deeply affected by a threat that could be described as degrading only by a distortion of the ordinary and usual meaning of the word.

In any event, in the case of these two children, the court, like the commission, notes that it has not been shown by means of medical certificates or otherwise that they suffered any adverse psychological or other effects.

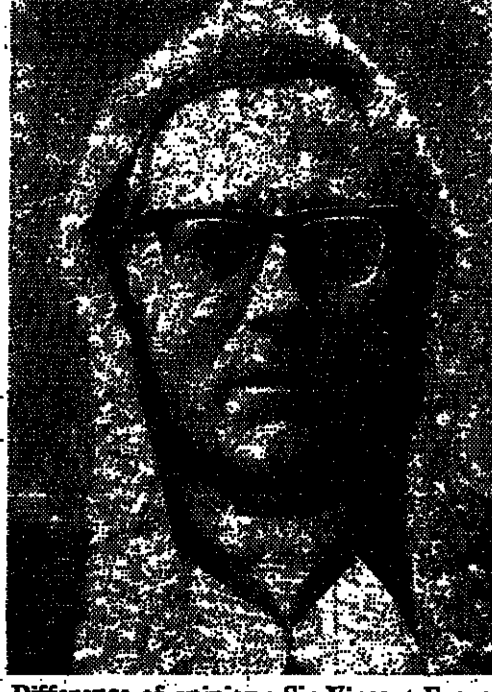
Jeffrey Cosans might have experienced feelings of apprehension or disquiet, but they were not sufficient to amount to "degrading treatment", and the same applied, a fortiori, to Gordon Campbell, who had never been directly threatened with corporal punishment.

4. The court accordingly concluded unanimously that no violation of article 3 had been established.

Article 50 (damages for injured parties).

The Government and counsel for Mrs Campbell had reserved their position on the question of the application of article 50. Counsel for Mrs Cosans had indicated that she would be submitting a claim in respect of moral damages and legal costs. The court found this question not to be ready for decision and reserved it.

In accordance with the convention, judgment was given by a chamber composed of seven judges, namely Mr R. Ryssdal (Norwegian), president, Mr J. Cremona (Maltese), Mr Thor Vilhjalmsson (Icelandic), Mr L. Liesch (Luxemburger), Mr L. E. Pettiti (French), Sir Vincent Evans (British) and Mr R. Macdonald (Canadian), and of Mr M. A. Eissen, registrar, and Mr H. Petzold, deputy registrar.




Difference of opinion: Sir Vincent Evans, who dissented from the Strasbourg verdict, and Mrs Grace Campbell, one of the mothers who brought the case.

European Convention on Human Rights

Protocol 1 article 2: "No person shall be denied the right to education. In the exercise of any functions which it assumes in relation to education and to teaching, the state shall respect the right of parents to ensure such education and teaching in conformity with their own religious and philosophical convictions."

Article 3: "No one shall be subjected to torture or to inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment".

The British judge's voice of dissent

The following views are extracts from the dissenting opinion of Sir Vincent Evans, the British judge:

An interpretation of the second sentence of article 2, extending its application beyond its intended scope, could give rise to very considerable difficulties in practice.

The maintaining of discipline is certainly an integral part of the educational system, as the majority of the court have observed. So are many other matters relating to the provision of educational facilities and the internal administration of schools, as distinct from the content of the instruction given.

If the sentence in question is interpreted in a sense wide enough to cover the views of parents opposed to corporal punishment, I do not see how it can reasonably be applied so as to exclude from its scope all manner of other strongly held views regarding the way in which schools are organized and administered.

There may be very strongly held beliefs on such matters as the segregation of sexes, the streaming of pupils according to ability or the existence of independent schools, which could be claimed to have a religious or philosophical basis.

The view in favour of the abolition of independent schools, for example, could be regarded as a philosophical conviction on the part of those who believe in the ideology of egalitarianism. It would surely create problems which were never intended by the authors of the protocol if different and inevitably conflicting opinions of this order had to be accommodated within the state's educational system.

There is an important difference between the kind of convictions which it is my understanding that article 2 was aimed to protect and views of the kind just mentioned.

Different religious and philosophical convictions relating to the content of instruction can be duly respected in the teaching process by presenting information in an objective way, but in regard to such matters as the segregation of the sexes, streaming and the abolition of independent schools, there would be insuperable practical difficulties in respecting equally the views of those who are opposed to and those who favour one system or the other.

As Mr Renton quite rightly foresaw in his comments in the consultative assembly on the draft protocol, "we are getting into very deep water when we start talking along those lines" *(official report of the thirty-fourth sitting of the consultative assembly, December 7 1951, collected edition V, P. 1215)*.

The court accepts that the first solution would be incompatible with the avoidance of unreasonable public expenditure, especially in the present economic situation.

The second solution, too, would surely involve unreasonable expense and hardly be compatible with the provision of efficient instruction and training. Moreover, in this connexion the wider implications of the court's interpretation discussed above must be borne in mind.

There remains the third possible solution referred to above. The court was informed at the oral hearing that at least some members of the commission held the view that this would, for many reasons, not be a practical solution. I agree with this view.

It seems to me essential that any system of discipline in a school should be seen to be fair and capable of being fairly administered, otherwise a sense of injustice will be generated with harmful consequences both for the upbringing of the individual and for harmonious relations within the group.

It will also place the teacher in an impractical position to administer discipline fairly if children in the same class have to be treated differently according to the views of their parents.

It has been pointed out that, where corporal punishment is used, exceptions are in any event made in respect of girls and children suffering from a disability. I believe that children will readily understand the reasons for this, but I think they are likely to regard it as arbitrary and unjust if Johnny is exempted simply because his mum or dad says so.

The decline of corporal punishment in schools

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

Yesterday's European Court ruling on corporal punishment in schools will accelerate a process already well under way. Less than three years ago corporal punishment was in use throughout the land. Today 25 education authorities have abolished it or intend to do so in the near future.

A further 18 are considering abolition, and the Government has advised that it should be phased out in Scotland by July, 1984.

In other authorities an increasing number of head teachers and governing bodies are unilaterally deciding to abandon its use; just how many will come to light for the first time with the requirement this year that all schools include their piolicy on corporal punishment in their information pamphlets for parents.

Any ban on caning applies only to county schools, however. Local authorities have no control over disciplinary procedures in voluntary-aided church schools, although there are some signs of a move towards abolition in those schools.

The Church of England is gathering information from all dioceses on the use of corporal punishment and intends to issue a note of guidance later this year

The Bishop of Bristol, the Right Rev John Tinsley, the chairman of the C of E Board of Education, has said the board was now advocating the immediate abolition of corporal punishment while awaiting information from the dioceses, "but it is hoped that individual governing bodies will, subject to the advice which will be offered in the note of guidance, wherever possible phase out corporal punishment and ultimately abolish that practice".

The London and Southwark diocesan boards of education have already written to all C of E schools in their areas saying that beating pupils is ineffective, damaging both psychologically and sometimes physically, a serious breach of human rights, and "incompatible with Christian educational ideals and aims". They have urged schools to phase out caning "over a limited period".

The Roman Catholic Church takes the view that corporal punishment is a question for individual schools, but nevertheless recommends that governing bodies be "mindful of local pressures". The Catholic Schools Commissioners are due to discuss the matter next month with a view to issuing more positive guidance.

Nearly all the local authorities that have banned, or are about to ban, corporal punishment are Labour-controlled. The party's national executive committee last year called for a firm commitment in the party's manifesto that the next Labour government would in the first session of parliament introduce legislation to abolish corporal punishment.

The NEC has already urged all Labour groups to end caning in their areas before such legislation is introduced. Research published last year by the National Children's Bureau suggests that caning may already have been phased out in half of all independent schools, including boys' public schools such as Westminster.

The research also suggested that, contrary to common belief, corporal punishment was used far less frequently in independent schools then in state schools. About 40 per cent of state school pupils in the survey attended schools where corporal punishment was said to be used regularly, compared with 12 per cent in private schools.

Leading article, page 11

Seven authorities have abolished corporal punishment: the Inner London Education Authority; the London boroughs of Newham, Brent, Waltham Forest, Haringey, and Hounslow; and Derbyshire.

Eight are due to do so later this year: Avon, Lothian, Strathclyde, Manchester, Sheffield, Rochdale, Humberside and Doncaster.

Ten are committed to abolition in the near future: Nottinghamshire, Cumbria, Northumberland, Fife, Leeds, Birmingham, Walsall, Sunderland, Liverpool and the Western Isles.

Science report

Two minds in a single brain

By the Staff of "Nature"

An ingenious adaptation of a children's guessing game has been used to show that in a split-brain patient—a person with the main connexion between the right and left halves of the brain cut in a treatment for epilepsy—the two halves of the brain could play against one another as though they were separate competitors.

But Professor Donald Mackay and his wife, Mrs Valerie Mackay, of Keele University, who devised the test, concluded that at the level at which "free will" might be said to act there is no evidence of "two wills" even in a person with separated hemispheres.

When the game was varied so that the halves might have been expected to be in conflict over how much one side of the brain should pay the other for winning, the two sides showed no desire to argue; at that level the two halves again acted as one whole.

In the guessing game the experimenters first showed the right hand side of the brain a number between 0 and 9 without letting the left side know the number.

That was done by flashing the number to the left of where the patient is looking; because the right hand side of the brain controls and receives sensations from only the left hand side of the body (and vice versa), the number is seen by only the right hemisphere. (In a normal person, of course, the information would be transferred to the other hemisphere through their interconnexions.)

Next the left hemisphere was asked to guess the number. That too is easy to do because the left hemisphere contains the speech centres and can make the guess orally. The right hand side can hear the guess, as both sides of the brain are connected to both ears, but it cannot say orally whether the guess is right or wrong because it has no control over speech.

Instead the experimenters arranged for it to reply by pointing the left hand (which it controls) to messages printed on a card. When the guess was too low it pointed to "go up", when the guess was too high, to "go down" and when the left hemisphere finally guessed the correct answer the hand pointed to "OK". The two hemispheres played the game happily, almost as though they were two separate people.

The Mackays then introduced a new element to the game to see if they could produce a conflict to indicate that the two sides really had separate "wills".

Now, each time the right hemisphere's hand pointed to one of the messages the left hemisphere's hand had to pay for the information by passing some of a limited supply of tokens over to the left hand. When the left hemisphere finally guessed correctly it received a fresh supply of tokens from the experimenters.

As it happened, when the left hemisphere was arranged to pay as much as three tokens for each piece of information it rapidly became bankrupt, leaving the right hemisphere the winner.

The experimenters then asked the critical question: would the right hemisphere settle for only two tokens for answering each guess, thereby giving the left hemisphere a better chance. If the two halves of the brain were really like two people and had independent wills, then they should have been in conflict.

The left hemisphere would be expected to demand no reduction in payment for its answers while the right would be expected to want to pay less for them. However, no such duality of will appeared; the two halves refused to bargain with each other. The right hemisphere indicated its willingness to accept only two tokens by pointing.

At exactly the same moment the left hemisphere agreed by saying "Sure, make it two tokens". It followed that up by addressing the experimenters with what must surely be the last word on the subject, "Are you guys trying to make two people out of me?"

Source: *Nature* Vol 295, page 690 (25 Feb), 1982.

'THINK TANK' CHIEF TO LEAVE

Mr Robin Ibbs, the head of the Central Policy Review Staff, is leaving Whitehall to return to ICI as a director on April 1.

Mr Ibbs was seconded to the CPRS, the Government's "think tank", in 1979. Since then it has concentrated on industrial matters and its report on nationalized industries is being considered by the Government.

Overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 28; Bahrain BD 0.650; Belgium B frs 40; Canada $2.50; Canaries Pes 125; Cyprus 550 mils; Denmark Dkr 7; Dubai Dir 7.00; Finland Mkk 7.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 80; Holland Gl 3.25; Iran IR 135; Iraq LD 0.500; Irish Republic 30p; Italy L 1800; Jordan LD 0.425; Kuwait KD 0.450; Lebanon LL 4.00; Luxembourg Lf 35; Madeira Esc 75; Malta 30c; Morocco Dir 7; Norway Kr 7.50; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan Rps 12; Portugal Esc 90; Qatar QR 7.50; Saudi Arabia SR 4.50; Singapore $5 00; Spain Pes 125; Sweden Skr 8.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Syria LS5.50; Tunisia Din 600; USA $1 50; UAE Dir 7.00; Yugoslavia Din 50.

Science report

Two minds in a single brain

SDP sets out policy for May elections

By Ian Bradley

Social Democrat councils elected next May would sell council houses to tenants, support subsidized public transport and oppose the Government's scheme to provide assisted places in independent schools.

Those are among the main points in a framework programme prepared by the party's policy department. A document setting out the main principles on which SDP candidates will fight the elections has been circulated to area parties.

It lists seven basic principles for policy formation; improving the quality of public services within the limits of available resources, breaking down social divisions and promoting equal opportunities, handing power back to the people, creating an open multiracial society, giving special attention to disadvantaged groups, putting Britain back to work, and protecting the environment.

Although there are very few references in the document to the Liberal Party, there is no doubt that it borrows heavily on the community politics ideas of the SDP's alliance partner, and specifically on the work of the Association of Liberal Councillors.

On education, it commits SDP councils to firm support of the comprehensive principle and opposition to "place buying in independent schools as an ideological weapon".

On housing, it says that SDP councillors should implement the existing legislation on council house sales and give a much higher priority to rehabilitation and maintenance of stock.

In the field of personal social services, increased use of volunteers is proposed. The document also calls for the encouragement of equal employment opportunities for ethnic minorities, but stops short of advocating positive discrimination.

Many SDP area parties have already chosen their candidates for the May elections, which will cover all the London boroughs, metropolitan district authorities and most non-metropolitan districts.

Meanwhile, more than 200 students will gather in Birmingham tonight for the first conference of the Social Democratic Party Students (SDPS).

The agenda for the conference shows that SDP students have the same concern as their elders with constitutional niceties. The draft constitution runs to seven closely typed pages and there are five pages of amendments.

Other motions suggest that the student wing is not going to embarrass its parent party. Those covering the subject of peace and disarmament, for example, make no reference to unilateralism, concentrating on a call for a multilateral approach.

There are also motions on Poland, housing and youth and society.

Fix end to Concorde cash, MPs urge

By Michael Baily, Transport Correspondent

The Government should fix a date to end support for Concorde, at present about £20m a year, MPs of the all-party Commons Trade and Industry Committee said yesterday.

Meanwhile they want more determined action by the Government to balance British and French contributions to the aircraft. The Department of Industry and Trade estimated last year that between 1976 and 1983 Britain's support costs would be £238m, or 58.6 per cent, while those of France would be £176.6m or 41.4 per cent, although the treaty required equal cost-sharing.

The committee while welcoming reduced costs for Concorde announced by the department in December, say "much more effort still needs to be made to ensure that the British taxpayer does not have to provide more money; a firmer hand is required".

They call for a new Concorde balance sheet to be drawn up for both the British and French parliaments, showing "with the same standard of accuracy as would be required under the Companies Act when drawing up a prospectus inviting subscriptions from the public" the balance of advantage between cancellation or continuation on the earliest date recognized as practicable for cancellation.

If, as seems likely, such figures indicate cancellation, "a terminal date for support from public funds should be fixed and announced".

The committee say: "We are disturbed at the department's apparent satisfaction both, with their past and current performance on Concorde cost forecasts". Nevertheless it seems probable that the project, which they concluded last year "has acquired a life of its own and is out of control", will continue to be so.

The two responsible ministers, Mr Norman Lamont, Secretary of State for Industry, and France's M Fiterman, are to meet before Easter to consider the matter. But one of the options set out after last summer's Thatcher-Mitterrand summit — early cancellation — has mysteriously disappeared from the agenda, apparently on the insistence of the French.

That leaves only "phased run-down", or "indefinite continuation", whatever the MPs may say.


Peter Trievnor

Members of PEN, the international association of writers, demonstrating outside the Polish Embassy in London yesterday. They delivered a petition demanding the release of writers imprisoned in Poland. (Left to right): Sir Victor Pritchett, Lady Antonia Pinter, Sir Angus Wilson, Mr Francis King, Mr Harold Pinter and Mr Stephen Spender.

Wormwood Scrubs run by the staff for months, MP says

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Wormwood Scrubs prison, in London, was not controlled by the Prison Department but was run by prison officers for months after their clash with prisoners there in 1979, Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, chairman of the Parliamentary All-Penal Affairs Group, said yesterday.

He described as "extraordinary" the way the Prison Officers' Association was allowed to go on a "long act of vengeance" after officers were sent in to quell a protest in D wing.

But the chairman of the association, Mr Colin Steel, said the officers at Wormwood Scrubs deserved praise, not blame, for the way they prevented a protest from developing into a riot of the kind that devastated Hull, another top secutity prison, in 1976.

At Wormwood Scrubs there was minimal damage to buildings, the injuries to prisoners and officers were superficial, and the officers' actions afterwards were aimed at containment until control was properly reestablished.

With that in mind, he said, Albany Prison, on the Isle of Wight, was on an earlier occasion locked up for six weeks after trouble there.

Increasing militancy by officers culminated in a national industrial dispute in 1979, which resulted in prisoners being held in police cells and other emergency accommodation.

As at Wormwood Scrubs, the dispute showed how much power the local branches of the POA have. And in Pucklechurch, a Bristol remand centre, officers refused to show round a member of the Board of Visitors, Mr Rodney Morgan, though he and other members are appointed as public watchdogs.

He accused the association of a "gross abuse of power". The association in turn accused him of undermining discipline.

In 1980 prison officers at Ashford Remand Centre banned education classes for people held pending deportation.

An official of the local branch said members did not see why free education should be provided for people not staying in the country when local children, including their own, suffered from government education cuts.

Later that year Mrs Christine Bell won a two-year battle to teach sewing in Armley men's prison, Leeds, after complaining to an industrial tribunal of sex discrimination. Officers boycotted the workshop where she was to work and the POA said they were afraid for her safety. An official spoke of being shocked when a woman was appointed to what was felt to be a man's job.

Mr Peter Rushworth, the association's deputy general secretary, explainded why that his association was against allowing abolition of censorship, tried out in open prisons, in the next lowest security garde of prison, Category "C". "on security grounds".

Plans to introduce pay telephones had also been curtailed, he said. The POA agreed to a pay telephone being introduced in Kirkham, an open prison, but before the end of the experiment the Prison Department tried to introduce a second one.

Since the terms of the agreement were broken, the POA decided not to cooperate and, Mr Rushworth said, the one pay telephone was not now in use. The issue was still on the Home Office agenda for discussion.

There were protests when prisoners were not allowed to have their usual visits on Boxing Day. Mr Rushworth said: "This is a POA conference decision, which has been negotiated and introduced by joint agreement".

Running through many of the POA's actions is a reluctance to allow power to go so far in favour of prisoners that security is undermined. The balance has swung away dramatically from prison officers in the last ten years, partly through human rights legislation and the influence of the European Court. That has happened at a time when the prison population has become overcrowded and volatile through the abolition of hanging, more violent crime and the inability of the health service, as a result of open door policy, to house some of the unstable in hospitals.

The use of psychologists and of probation officers as welfare officers has made prison officers fearful that their job will be reduced to that of a turnkey.

At the same time the old heirarchical discipline has been undermined as the supply of recruits from the Services has dried up, to be replaced by more officers with industrial experience, who respond as trade unionists.

There has been growing pressure within the *Prison Department* to turn governors into "managers" and at one stage a plan was being discussed to do away with the jobs of the tribal elders of the service, the top Chief Officers the equivalent of regimental sergeant-majors.

Mr Brendan O'Friel, chairman of the governors' branch of the Society of Civil and Public Servants, said that the theme running through the Wormwood Scrubs report was the difficulty of equating two approaches to staff relations: one of consultation, the other of giving orders.

At some stage orders had to be given and obeyed. "We are in the middle because we don't know what the boundaries are".

Mr Kilroy-Silk said: "The POA could be a most positive and powerful force for reform of the prison system. If they chose to use their power constructively they could provide an environment more stimulating and satisfying with a well defined professional role; whereas at the moment they tend to use their power negatively and destructively.

Young are 'aged' to make room

☐ Young offenders are being reclassified as adults and removed to adult penal establishments in order to relieve overcrowding in juvenile establishments, Mr Kilroy-Silk said yesterday (Francis Gibb writes).

He told other MPs examining the Criminal Justice Bill in committee that the Magistrate's Association had expressed concern that the law which allowed juveniles to be reclassified as adults if they were disruptive was being misused.

£20,000 libel award to rugby man

Mr J. P. R. Williams was awarded £20,000 libel damages today over newspaper articles which branded him a "shamateur" in Welsh rugby.

A High Court jury in London took four and a half hours to decide that Wales's most-capped full back had been libelled in two articles in *The Daily Telegraph* alleging that he infringed his amateur status by accepting money for his autobiography in 1979.

Afterwards Mr Williams, said he was thrilled and relieved. "it was the worst experience of my life — far worse than playing Rugby. "It was a victory for for me and every rugby player in the land", he said.

Mr Williams was given judgment with costs and the judge granted a 28-day stay of execution pending consideration of an appeal.

The player, who was made M. B. E. for services to rugby, sued *The Daily Telegraph*, Mr William Deedes, its editor and John Reason, his former rugby correspondent, over the articles in February and March, 1979.

Libel was denied. The defendants pleaded that the articles were true and justified.

Mr Williams aged 32, an orthopaedic surgeon, of Llansannor, South Glamorgan, who still plays for his home town of Bridgend, claimed the "shamateurism" slur could have forced him out of the game. He said the articles made him feel a "traitor" to his sport.

He told Mr Justice Russell that £35,000 made from the book, — *J. P. R. — an Autobiography*, Was used to set up a sports clinic in Bridgend. Under Rugby Union rules a player can ramain an amateur only if gives away any money he earns from his position in the game.

The *Telegraph* claimed that Mr Williams, who was of " shamteurism" in a Welsh Rugby Union inquiry, made up his mind to give the money to charity only after appeared. Summing-up, the judge said there was nothing in the amateur rules requiring a player to make public his ultimate intentions when begining such a venture.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Boy drowns after night out

Simon Hedges, aged 15, drowned early today after he and a friend had tried to row across Portsmouth harbour having missed the last ferry from Gosport. He was washed out to sea after their dinghy overturned. Kevin Crillin, aged 18, managed to swim to the shore.

The boys had been to visit their girl friends, Mrs Jean Hedges, of Hampage Green, Warren Park, near Portsmouth, said. Mrs Pamela Crellin said: "They were both wearing heavy clothes. Kevin tried to pull Simon out of the water but could not manage it".

Mrs Hedges said: "We just do not believe Simon could have drowned. We are hoping he got ashore and that he is too frightened to come home".

Police called off their search for the boy after 10 hours. A damaged rowing boat was found on the beach at Eastney, a mile from the harbour entrance. Last night Kevin Crellin, of Winchfield Crescent, Leigh Park, near Portsmouth, was being treated for exposure.

Ballet official on forgery charge

Anthony Barlow, aged 40, a former press officer for the London Festival Ballet Trust, at Horseferry Road Court, London, yesterday was sent for trial at the Inner London Crown Court on 30 charges of procuring and forging the company's cheques, with a total value of about £5,000.

Mr Barlow, of Rosenau Road, Battersea, who started working for the company in 1974, was ordered to surrender his passport to police and provide two sureties of £2,500 each. The charges relate to dates between June, 1979, and February, 1981.

Palace 'prayer meetings'

One of the Queen's stewards held regular prayer meetings in Buckingham Palace and in the royal yacht Britannia, Mr Paul Kidd claims in a magazine article. He says he also preached to Government ministers who visited the palace.

Mr Kidd, aged 28, now works as an operating theatre technician in the Manchester area, and lives at Ashton-under-Lyne. He has broken royal protocol by writing about his service in *Decision*, the newspaper of Dr Billy Graham.

Tuck shop wins award

The tuck shop at Hereford Cathedral School has won a conservation award after boys and masters helped in a £14,000 restoration project for the sixteenth-century building, using pews and a staircase from the cathedral.

Vicar is accused

The Rev William Cecil Heatley, aged 42, of Clyde Road, Sanderstead, south London, was remanded on bail by Croydon magistrates yesterday accused of unlawfully and maliciously wounding Mr John Mallender on January 30. Mr Heatley is vicar of St Anthony's Church, Sanderstead.

Interferon tests yield mixed results

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Early results of trials with interferon as a treatment for cancer and for a wide range of virus-induced diseases are a mixture of good news and bad news.

That is the general conclusion to be drawn from a meeting yesterday at the Royal Society, in London, at which doctors and scientists reviewed the likely medical usefulness of that remarkable substance.

The exuberance of two years ago, when interferon was being described as a potential wonder drug of the 1980s, has been subsumed in a more conservative view of the scope of its clinical application.

But interferon is showing some reassuring results in treating certain types of tumours and other illnesses. Yet there are side-effects such as fever, malaise and weight loss, after some courses of therapy, and remissions have not occurred with categories of cancer for which laboratory tests have given reasons to expect a better response.

Giving a status report for the main teams carrying out clinical trials with interferon in cancer in Britain, Dr T. J. Priestman, of the Dudley Hospital, Birmingham, said work was at an early stage of development.

Trials by his group to check for possible side-effects revealed encouraging signs of remissions among a limited number of cancer cases.

A young man with advanced Hodgkin's disease was failing to respond to cytotoxic drug therapy with cyclophophamide and bleomycin, which is the last line of treatment open to a doctor in those circumstances. The patient received 30-day courses of treatment.

CARAVAN JOBS FOR HILL FARMS

By Hugh Clayton

Tourst caravans should be used to bring jobs to remote upland beauty spots, the National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers said yesterday. It proposed in evidence to the Commons Select Committee on Agriculture that farms in the less frequented scenic areas outside national parks should be given planning permission for up to five caravans each.

The union also wanted disused barns to be used for light industry and more forests planted on remote hillsides.

School pays vandalism informers

From Tim Jones, Cardiff

Children in Gwent are being offered cash rewards by the county council for informing on school vandals. The payments are part of a campaign to combat attacks on schools, which last year cost more than £100,000 to repair.

The children are given £10 if their information leads to a conviction and this year £80 has been paid out. Their names are kept secret to protect them from intimidation.

Mr Roger Evans, chairman of the council's building and development committee, said: "There seems to be no downward trend in the senseless, wanton damage or the cost of repairs and there seems no pattern to it either."

Notices are displayed at every school in the county informing children that they will be rewarded in confidence if they help to convict young wreckers. Books have been burnt, windows and light bulbs smashed and paint smeared over classrooms.

Mr Evans appealed to people living near schools to be "public spirited and courageous" enough to report any suspicious incidents to the police.

Det Chief Supt Gordon Jones, head of Gwent CID, said: "We are tremendously encouraged by the enthusiastic attitude of comprehensive school headmasters".

☐ Mrs Jacqueline McLoughlin, wife of the headmaster of St Saviour's Primary School, in Toxtieth, Liverpool, where children aged nine and ten have terrorized staff, spoke yesterday of her husband's happy days at the school. She said lessons ran smoothly until after last summer's riots.

Mr Colin McLaughlin, aged 53, who suffers from heart trouble, had opted for early retirement a "shattered man" she said. "Everybody is talking about the trouble in the past few weeks, but all the good things about the school have been ignored.

"My husband had 32 happy years there and has no regrets. It is only since the riots that all this has happened", she said.

No ban on teacher of Welsh

From Our Correspondent, Liverpool

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education, has decided not to ban Mr Wayne Williams, a Welsh language activist, from teaching in state schools.

Mr Williams, aged 28, of Tregaron, Dyfed, who is a former chairman of the Welsh Language Society, served a prison sentence last year for conspiring to damage broadcasting equipment in the campaign for an all-Welsh television channel.

He is at present suspended from his job as a teacher of Welsh in a mid-Wales school. Last month a High Court judge granted a temporary injunction to a group of parents who want Mr Williams removed from Llanidloes High School, Powys.

The parents, led by Mr Lawrence Smith, a retired bank manager, who sought the injunction, say Mr Williams is not fit to teach because of his prison record. But strong support for him has come from other parents, who say he is an excellent teacher and has never taken politics into the classroom.

Mr Williams, who is married, with a baby daughter, learnt yesterday that Sir Keith had decided after careful consideration not to put his name on List 99, of teachers banned from working in state schools because of political or criminal activities.

Sir Keith has warned Mr Williams that if he is guilty of further misconduct he is unlikely to escape disqualification. Sir Keith says his decision does not affect the right of Powys County Council to end Mr Williams's employment for misconduct.

Mr Williams said yesterday: "I am very pleased that I am not being blacklisted. This means that I could, in theory, teach at any other school except Llanidloes.

"I think the decision of the minister removes the objection of some parents who say I should not be allowed to resume my job because no reasonable education authority would employ me.

"Presumably Sir Keith does not believe that is the case".

Conflict in the air

Rise of the flying motor cycle

By David Nicholson-Lord

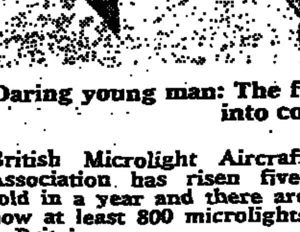
Objections are growing to a noisy breed of small manned aircraft, known collectively as microlights and described by their opponents as "flying motor cycles".

Despite increasing popularity, microlights are subject to no statutory airworthiness or pilot training controls. Critics say they are also the source of growing noise pollution for which there is no adequate redress.

Enthusiasts claim to have quietened their craft and say they are sensitive to allegations of noise nuisance, but microlights' arrival in Britain has exposed what many council environmental health officers believe is a loophole in the noise control law.

The Noise Abatement Society, which is seeking to have them banned, has described them as "uncontrolled and uncontrollable".

Microlights are often little more than powered hang-gliders, offering the delights of flying at a fraction of the cost of a normal light aircraft. Membership of the British Microlight Aircraft Association has risen five-fold in a year and there are now at least 800 microlights in Britain.



Daring young man: The flying machine that has swept into controversy

Popularity has also brought complaints, centring on engine and exhaust noise. Earlier models used snowmobile or lawnmower engines and featured direct-drive propellers, acknowledged by Mr Ronald Bott, the association secretary, to be noisy. Newer microlights have 250-450cc two-stroke engines, lending credence to the "flying motor cycle" charge.

Mr David Johnson, chief assistant environmental health officer at Tandridge District Council, in east Surrey, says they emit a continuous, high-pitched noise, concentrated in one area. Mr Johnson investigated complaints about microlights using a local field but found he could take no action unless they broke air navigation rules.

That is because they are classed as aircraft and are therefore exempt from the Control of Pollution Act, 1974. Yet it is precisely their dissimilarity from private light aircraft that appeals to enthusiasts and annoys objectors.

Microlights can be taken to pieces, folded away on a roofrack or trailer, assembled in less than half an hour and launched from a cricket pitch. They are slower than light aircraft, averaging 35-55mph, compared with 100-200mph, and fly at much lower altitudes, about 1,000 ft against 4,000 ft.

The Civil Aviation Authority plans to enforce microlight pilot training procedures from next September, but has not yet set a date for the introduction of airworthiness standards. Noise certification procedures seem even farther off.

Glider pilots dispute a hanging matter

By Ronald Faux

A wrangle about the airspace over Dunstable Down has broken out between hang gliders and the pilots of traditional gliders. The London Gliding Club, which has used the thermal air currents over Totternhoe, Bedfordshire, for fifty years, is concerned about the "probability rather than the possibility" of a fatal collision involving members of the Dunstable Hang Gliding Club.

Conversely, hang glider operators say there have been attempts to frighten them off. A photograph of a tug aircraft trailing its steel cable close to where hang gliders were flying has been handed to the Civil Aviation Authority.

"It was a stupid and provocative thing to do. In other flying areas the two types of glider share the same airspace without problems. We believe it is only a small number of LGC members who are causing the trouble", a hang glider pilot said.

The ridge in dispute is owned by Bedfordshire County Council and offers some of the best gliding conditions within easy reach of London.

When Mr Christopher Ellison, a hang glider pilot, reported a glider pilot for dangerous flying, both the club and the council withdrew their permits. In defiance, the hang gliders continued to take off until three pilots were prosecuted at Dunstable magistrates' court under the by-law.

The case was lost because the magistrates considered the by-law ambiguous and unreasonably partial to the London Gliding Club, and because a club member sat on the Bedfordshire County Council leisure committee.

Tebbit rejects protest by youth training lobby

By Richard Evans

A mass lobby of Parliament yesterday by about 3,000 young people protesting at the Government's youth training policies was given short shrift by Mr Norman Tebbit, Sectetary of State for Employment.

He rejected demands contained in a declaration passed at a packed rally in the Festival Hall, which was addressed by Mr Wedgwood Benn, and stepped up his accusation against Mr Benn of promoting frustration among the young jobless.

"I just hope he is not going to do for these youngsters what he has done for the Labour Party — that is, completely spoil their chances for the future", Mr Tebbit declared.

The demonstration, organized by Labour Party Young Socialists and the Youth Opportunities Programme Trainees' Union Rights Campaign, accused Mr Tebbit of adopting training schemes "to keep youth off the streets and to cook the unemployment figures".

The declaration attacked the inadequacies of YOPs and denounced Mr Tebbit's proposed training scheme, due to start next year. It called for union pay rates for trainees, a guaranteed job for all at the end of their training, free travel to work and five weeks' paid holiday.

Mr Tebbit spoke to six of the demonstrators for half an hour in his room in the Commons. "I did not think they were a bad lot of kids, but of course the people who are manipulating them are entirely politically motivated", he said afterwards. "This sort of lobby is a set up by people who very skilfully make demands they know no reasonable person can agree to".

Mr Peter Gayle aged 19, of Peckham, London, said after the meeting: "I do not think Tebbit wanted to know. I do not think he cares." Mr Laurence Coates, the Young Socialist reprsentative on the Labour Party's National Executive Committee, said: "Tebbit's sympathy was just crocodile tears. The youth of this country have got to fight and organize for jobs. We are not going to get anything from the likes of Tebbit."

Mr Mark Spence, aged 19 and unemployed since leaving school two years ago, said: "He has nothing in common with working-class people. He dodged most of our questions and was not sympathetic at all.

Rippon's Budget plea

☐ Lower interest rates and selective public investment were put forward yesterday as Budget priorities By Mr Geoffrey Rippon, the former Conservative Cabinet minister (our Political Editor writes).

High interest rates had prolonged inflation, he told a meeting of the Greater London Tory Reform Group. Britain should set its own rates, regardless of what happened in the United states.

Mr Rippon said it was imperative to redeploy public expenditure, say, on roads and sewers, to stimulate an investment-led recovery.

He accepted that there could not be a big increase in borrowing and a significant reduction in interest rates, and that severely limited the scope for tax reductions.

Inquiry may satisfy Shetland

From Jonathan Wills
Edinburgh

In an attempt to defuse home rule sentimnent in the Shetland Islands the government is to set up a committee of inquiry into island councils in Scotland. The committee will examine the record of local authorities in the Western Isles, Orkney and Shetland since the passing of the Local Government (Scotand) Act in 1973 and will recommend changes in the law if necessary.

Mr George Younger, the Secretary of State for Scotland, has been lobbied repeatedly by the Shetland Islands council for a commission to inquire into the constitutional status of Shetland.

Discontent over the handling of compensation from the oil industry for the Sullom Voe oil terminal, coupled with worries about the Shetland fishing industry within the EEC, has led to the formation of the Shetland Movement party, which wants limited law-making and tax-gathering powers for a local Shetland assembly.

The Shetland Movement, now the largest political party in the islands, does not want complete separation from the rest of the United Kingdom but has 12 of the 25 seats on the Shetland Islands council and has been vociferous in its demands for a full-scale commission of inquiry. Mr Younger's committee is less than the movement asked for but is likely to satisfy most Shetlanders.

The inclusion in the terms of reference of the Western Isles and Orkney where home rule feeling is far less pronounced, will make a special constitutional deal for Shetland less likely, but ministers are anxious to avoid any political trouble in Britain's main oil-producing province. The Shetland Movement intends to run candidates in the council elections in May.

The three island councils combine powers normally divided beween district and regional councils elsewhere in Scotland. Shetland has pioneered the use of a little-known part of the 1973 Act to finance small industries out of the rates.



Miss Taylor arriving at the Palladium yesterday to face questions on her stage debut

Miss Taylor v the press

Mrs John Warner, formerly Miss Elizabeth Taylor, Mrs Conrad Hilton, Mrs Michael Wilding, Mrs Mike Todd, Mrss Eddie Fisher, Mrs Richard Burton (twice), pouted an ample and glistening lower lip.

The blue saucer eyes, edged in black, panned across the boiling sea of pressmen, twin gunsights seeking the enemy who had fired the question whether she would be inviting Mr Burton to see her new play (Alan Hamilton writes).

"We are not talking about anyone personally at this press conference", Miss Taylor said sweetly, fixing one of the those crocodile smiles that are all teeth and no joke.

Miss Taylor, dressed in burgundy suede with gold curtain rings in her ears and a gold anchor chain round her neck, sat in the crush bar of the London Palladium as though posing for a chocolate box, framed by a gold and whte proscenium arch and protected from the waist down by a parapet of carnations.

Miss Taylor, who looks much thinner than of late from the front but less so from the side, was supposed to be telling the world about her British stage debut at the Victoria Palace on March 5 as the viperish Regina Giddens in Lillian Hellman's classic, *The Little Foxes*, a topic which was quickly disposed of.

Are you nervous? "Of course I'm nervous. It's my first stage play, period. We did it in America for nearly a year, but the sets and the blocking are completely different; it's like a whole new play."

Is the character like you? "I hope not. She is avaricious and vicious beyond belief, and slightly vulnerable in places."

What made you want to go on stage? "The timing was right. My husband was a new senator and very busy, and I wanted something to do myself."

Do you still enjoy being mobbed? "No, it was terrifying at Heathrow." Miss Taylor fought her way out to her chocolate-coloured Rolls-Royce, showing no outward signs of terror at the mob awaiting her in the pavement.

Sea change in defence policy

Why the Navy is losing HMS Invincible

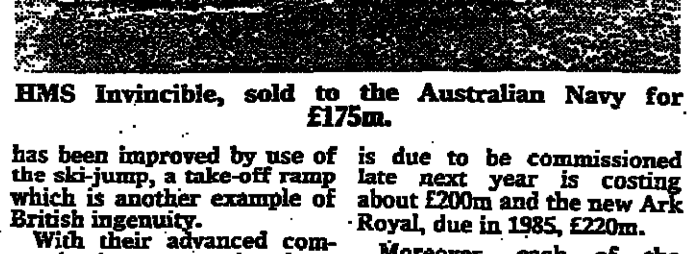
By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

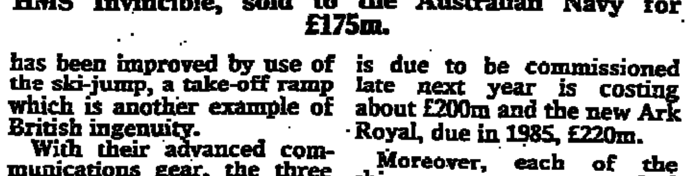
Storms of one kind or another have blown around HMS Invincible and her sister ships since they were three gleams in an admiral's eye in the swinging 1960s. There were disputes over how, whether and when they should be built, just as now Invincible herself is awash with arguments over her disposal.

The ships were conceived as a second-best alternative when it became clear to the Royal Navy that its hopes of replacing the late 43,000-ton carrier Ark Royal with a class of similar size and shape had been dashed for all time. Their original designation, "through-deck cruisers", was chosen with care to avoid giving the correct impression that the naval staff were trying to build small carriers on the sly.

More recently, with their future looking reasonably assured, the title switched to "anti-submarine carriers", which more accurately describes their role, and as such they have attracted considerable naval interest around the world.

Displacing 19,000 tons when fully loaded, the Invincible is armed with the Sea Dart anti-aircraft missle, which can also be used against other ships for self-defence. But her primary weapons are nine large Sea King anti-submarine helicopters and five Sea Harrier aircraft, whose performance has been improved by use of the ski-jump, a take-off ramp which is another example of British ingenuity.







HMS Invincible, sold to the Australian Navy for £175m.

With their advanced communications gear, the three were designed to serve as flagships of anti-submarine task forces containing a blend of destroyer/frigates, submarines and supply vessels.

The plan was to have two such task forces in operation at any one time, patrolling the North Atlantic sea lanes, while the third was in port being refitted or resupplied.

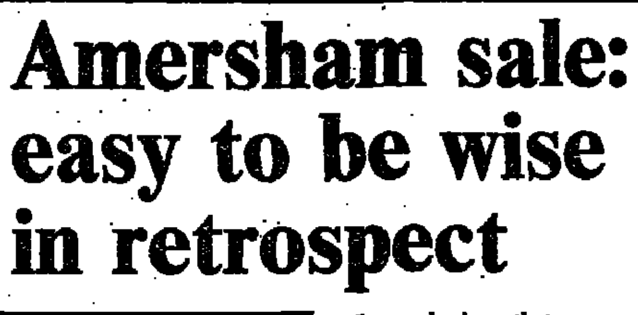
But the usual delays meant that the Invincible was late coming into service, thereby earning for itself the unkind sobriquet of HMS Unfinishable, and that the final price, even without the Harriers and Sea Kings, was £175m. The Illutrious, which is due to be commissioned late next year is costing about £200m and the new Ark Royal, due in 1985, £220m.

Moreover, each of the ships consumes a great deal of fuel and needs a thousand sailors who are nowadays quite expensive. However good they may be, and the Invincible impressed Allied navies on an excercise last year, there is a suspicion that they really owe their existence to the Navy's obsession with big ships.

Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Defence, firmly believes that no British Government today would order them.

Similar criticism is heard from Australia, where some government backbenchers have complained of extravagance.

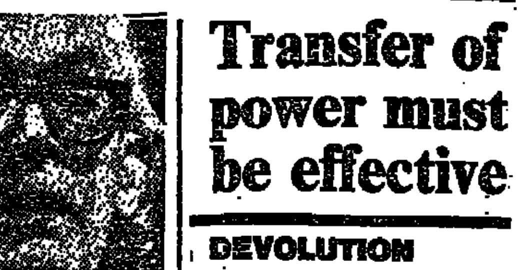
PARLIAMENT February 25 1982



Amersham sale: easy to be wise in retrospect



Thatcher: Took best advice



Foot: Who gave advice

SALE OF SHARES

Raising the case of Amersham International, shares of which were put on the market by the Government, Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition, said during questions in the Commons to the Prime Minister that it was a scandal that state assets should be put on the market in this manner and sold at knock-down prices. He asked who had advised the Government on how they should go about this procedure.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher replied: that it was very easy in retrospect to make a judgment about the price. The offer price of 142p was decided over two weeks ago on the firm advice of professional City advisers and was believed to be the highest on which the company could be successfully offered.

It has been suggested (she went on) that it should have been put out to tender but small investors and people who work for the company could not have had a chance to take up shares. (Labour protests)

Mr Foot: Is not this something similar, although not so scandalous, to what happened in the case of Cable and Wireless. If the defence of the situation is that it is easy to view this in retrospect, what is the Prime Minister going to do if she decides to proceed with the sale of the British National Oil Corporation? Is the advice going to come from the same quarter?

Mrs Thatcher: One takes the best possible professional advice. It is possible to consider tendering in future. We shall take professional advice and consider tendering.

I emphasize that we are anxious that employees should have the chance to purchase shares. Small investors should have a chance to purchase shares. By this mentod they can, by the tender method they cannot.

Mr Foot: Some of her advisers who gave wrong advice on this subject have made at least a million pounds out of it. (Lab cheers and Conservative protests).

Mrs Thatcher: I hope that Mr Foot is not making any accusations he would not make outside. (Conservative cheers).

Later, during questions about next week's business, Mr Foot asked for a debate on Amersham International, in the light of what had occurred and the gross injury to the national credit and the way they tried to preserve taxpayers' money, and in order to ensure that the same kind of thing did not occur again, particularly with BNOC.

Mr Francis Pym, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the Commons, said that he could add nothing to what the Prime Minister had said. He added that Mr Foot had opportunities to arrange a debate.

A written Parliamentary answer yesterday pointed out that the offer for sale of the company was 24.6 times subscribed by applications from company employees and the public.

☐ When Mrs Thatcher was challenged at question time about a National Institute report which predicted increased unemployment, she replied that the report also forecasted recovery and lower inflation.

Dr David Owen (Plymouth, Devonport, SDP) wondered if Mrs Thatcher had studied the report which stated that unless policies are changed unemployment would steadily rise over the next year?

Since the Prime Minister (he added) commented on the budget outside the House, she should say, because there has been a fall-off in oil revenue, whether she is including any stimulus to demand and output in the budget.

Mrs Thatcher: With regard to budget details, he will have to wait. He will not have long. On the various economic forecasts, there are a number. The Liverpool forecast is optimistic; so is the Cambridge one. The National Institute forecast foresees recovery this year and falling inflation.

Mr David Winnick (Walsall North, Lab): Her speech to the engineering employers regarding the budget caused much justified alarm that there would be no change in the present disasterous economic policies.

In May 1979, West Midlands unemployment was 5 per cent. Now it is more than 15 per cent. How does she explain the tragedy and devastation caused through her economic policies?

Mrs Thatcher: A number of reasons. There has been considerable overmanning in industry. A great deal of unemployment was caused by the world recession and there are 10m unemployed throughout Europe. Due to Government policies management has been given the responsibility and authority to manage to get orders and improve export performance.

HMS Invincible

☐ This year Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Defence, had been able to place orders worth £410m with British Shipbuilders for new warships, the Prime Minister said, when she was questioned about the sale of HMS Invincible.

Mr Anthony Buck (Colchester, C) said: Mrs Thatcher should express the concern we all feel she must share with MPs about the Government finding it necessary to sell one of the most powerful ships in the Royal Navy. The only agreeable feature about it is that it should go to such a firm, staunch Commonwealth ally as Australia.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher: I know of his concern. We always wish to have more defence ships and equipment than we are able to afford.

Mr Nott announced the decision that we could only keep two of these ships. Therefore we had to decide to try to sell the third to a very close and staunch ally. Because of that decision, Mr Nott has been able to place far more ship orders than he would otherwise be able to do.

☐ It was appalling and dogmatic to refuse state aid knowing full well that it would be a way of reaching a decision democratically, Mrs Thatcher said when she was asked by Mr Peter Emery (Honiton, C) to deplore the TUC's decision to expel any organization that used state aid to hold secret ballots.

Americans urged not to give aid

TERRORISM

An appeal to Americans to realize what they were doing when they gave money to Noraid was made by Mr John Patten, Under Secretary of State for Northern Ireland. They should reflect on the distress caused to the victims in Northern Ireland and recognize that Noraid might be better called Terror Aid or Murder Aid, he said.

He told Mr David Alton (Liverpool, Edge Hill, L) that arms smuggled from the United States had been used frequently in terrorist attacks, including murders of members of the security forces and civilians.

The United States Government (he said) is well aware of that, and continues to take energetic measures to prevent such traffic. I hope recent publicity will have brought the point home to those who make financial contributions to terrorists' front organizations.

Mr Alton: Has he had a chance to consider the revelations made in the Granada Television *World in Action* programme last Monday, and will he in particular take this opportunity of urging people in the Irish Catholic community in the United States to desist from giving funds to Noraid on the basis that much of this money is being used for arms smuggling, and that is being used for the murder of innocent people in Northern Ireland?

Mr Patten: I am aware of that programme. A New York district court has ruled that the so-called Noraid organization is linked directly to the Provisional IRA and should be registered as such.

"I would like to take this opportunity of appealing to everyone in the United States who is tempted to give financial or other aid to this organization to realize what they are doing and perhaps to take the opportunity of reflecting on what distress has been caused to the victims of those people who have suffered from the guns purchased with that money, and to recognize that Noraid might be better called Terror Aid or Murder Aid.

Mr Robert Atkins (Preston, North, C): it is slightly ironic that it is possible for the United States to supply this country with Trident, but yet they will not allow the sale of smaller arms and any guns for use by the RUC to combat terrorism.

Mr Patten: I see the logic of his question. This Government has made it clear to the Government of the United States that it utterly deplores the fact that they suspended the licence to export weapons to the RUC.

We would expect our allies and friends to make available to us weapons for personal protection, but I would stress that the Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary is perfectly satisfied with the equipment which his men carry at the moment.

Judge unwise to send thief to Britain

The decision by a judge in the Irish Republic to give a prisoner a second chance by sending him to the United Kingdom had not been wise, Mr Prior, Secretary of Northern Ireland, said.

Mr James Kilfedder, (Down, North UU) stated: When the next Prime Minister of the Irish Free State is known — and it looks as if it will be Mr. Haughey whose sympathy for the IRA is well known — will he be told bluntly that we oppose the way the courts send Eire citizens, who are thieves, to the United Kingdom, but refuse to extradite Provisional IRA terrorists who are responsible for atrocities committed in the United Kingdom, including murder and mutilation?

It is time the Eire Government was told our views.

Mr Prior: The Government of the Republic is well aware of the views of the United Kingdom Government in the matters mentioned. I believe that the cooperation shown by the Government of the Republic, and particularly by the Garda, along the border, has resulted in a considerable improvement in the security situation.

Sir William Clark (Croydon, South, C): It is not good enough for judges in the Irish Republic to give a prisoner another chance by sending him to the United Kingdom. It is completely unfair on the taxpayers of this country that we should take in citizens of other countries so that they can enjoy the welfare benefits for which the British taxpayer has paid and yet which the person recieving it has not paid one penny towards.

Mr Prior: It was a decision that I think was not a very wise one.

Powers to stay until terrorism has ceased

Emergency provisions in Northern Ireland would remain until terrorism had ceased, Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said during qestions.

Mr Andrew Bennett (Stockport, North, Lab) had asked for an inquiry into the operation of the Northen Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Act. There is always a danger of temporary procisions turning into permanent ones (he said).

Would he not set up an inquiry to look at ways in which legislation can be phased out?

Mr Prior: These are matters that will be considered ahead of the next renewal of the Act, but violence and the capacity for it is sufficiently high to require such measures still to deal with it.

All not gloom in Principality

WALES

Immensely exciting and promising things which were happening in Wales, Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, said when opening a debate on Welsh affairs. Wales, he said, was a good place in which to live and work.

At the latest count the total number out of work in Wales stood at 174,878, and the seasonally adjusted figure of 162,600 represented 15 per cent of the labour force.

The social consequences of unemployment on this scale were severe. But two aspects of the situation offered grounds for optimism. The first was that despite Wales having suffered a particularly large share of the rundown of the steel industry, the relative position of Wales within the United Kingdom economy had held up well.

The second aspect giving grounds for optimism was that there were now signs of the move from recession, Despite the disruptions caused by weather and strikes over the last couple of months, there were clear indications of an upturn in industrial production since the second quarter of last year.

Hard-headed businessmen coming to Europe without prejudices and preconceptions were increasingly choosing Wales as an ideal location for their operations. The story of Llanwern and Port Talbot with their dramatic improvements in productivity had become a striking example to British industry. Others had matched that performance.

Figures of factory allocations were further evidence of an upturn in the economy. There was a significantly larger number of applications for selective financial assistance in 1981 than in the previous year. More important still, there was a significant increase in the number of offers accepted: 112 worth more than £20m and expected to create well over 7,000 new jobs and safeguard over 4,000 existing jobs.

He had appointed a new chairman of the Welsh Water Authority who would join the board on April 1 and take over on June 1. He was Mr John Jones, chosen from 80 applicants, who was at present seconded to the Welsh Office by his employers Anglesey Aluminium, as industrial director. The names of the majority of the new board would be announced within the next few weeks.

He had agreed with the Manppwer Services Commission that they should launch an enterprise allowance scheme in Wales to help people who wanted to set up businesses. The area chosen was Deeside in north-east Wales.

A figure of £500,000 had been earmarked for the scheme which it was hoped would be running in April. The pilot scheme would operate for three years.

Mr Alec Jones, chief Opposition spokesman on Wales (Rhondda, Lab), said that St David would turn in his grave if he could see the havoc which the Government had wreaked all over Wales in the short period for which it had been responsible.

No part of Wales and no significant group of Welsh people had escaped from the Government's incompetent administration.

Ministers and their sycophantic backbenchers had managed to spread discontent, distress and disaster from one end of Wales to the other.

The Tory Party was today, as it was in his youth, the party of unemployment in Wales. Under the Secretary of State's stewardship unemployment had increased by 118.5 per cent — one in six of the work force. With unemployment standing at 16.1 per cent Wales had the unenviable distinction of having a higher percentage of people unemployed than Scotland or any region of England.

Government economic policies would leave a scar on society which would take many years to heal. There had been deliberate attempts to reduce artificially and massage downwards the numbers of people on the unemployment register.

The majority of people in Wales were not workshy but job hungry.

Mr Geraint Morgan (Denbeigh, C) said he could only describe as irresponsible the final vote of the Welsh counties declaring the Principality to be a nuclear-free zone.

He could not think that Welsh opinion was basically different on this issue from that of Britain as a whole and it was apparent from poll after poll that the British as a whole wished by a large majority to remain effective members of Nato and to retain the nuclear deterrrent as the surest way of maintaining the peace.

Mr Ifor Davies (Gower, Lab) said there could be little argument that cuts in public spending had contributed to the recesssion. Wales in particular had been hit hard. With two-thirds of Welsh jobs dependent upon public expenditure directly or indirectly the cuts had been a savage blow.

The Government's cuts in education, which were a threaat to the long-term future of Britain, meant losses of facilities which would never be regained. Education should be given the highest priority in Government expenditure.

The cuts had had a grievous effect upon the University of Wales and its students whose mumbers had been reduced. There was a need for more students and more research, not less. In the field of fundamental research, with isolated exceptions, it was the universities which were the only institutions able to provide the role.

In the interests of the people of the country and the people of Wales in particular, he urged the Government to think again in order to save the economy from its desperate state.

Sir Anthony Meyer (Flint, West, C) said the EEC was blamed for almost everything that went wrong — and many things had gone wrong — but it would be even more difficult to solve the problems if we were not members of the Community.

One of the problems was the importation of washing machines from Italy at a lower price than they could be produced in Wales.

State help for potato board

The Minister of Agriculture is making £150,000 available to help the Potato Marketing Board launch a premium potato campaign for the 1982 potato crop.

Mr Peter Walker, announcing the grant, said in a written reply that he was encouraging the board to strengthen its efforts in marketing British potatoes so that they met the needs of the domestic consumer and the processing industry.

Next week's business

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be:

Monday: Travel Concessions (London) Bill, remaining stages. Northern Ireland Orders.

Tuesday: Debates on Opposition motion on gas prices and on Opposition motion on the situation in central America.

Wednesday: Further progress on the committee stage of the Canada Bill.

Thursday: Coal Industry Bill, remaining stages.

Friday: Private members' motion on test-tube babies.

The main business in the House of Lords will be:

Monday: Taking of Hostages Bill, second reading. Debate on environmental pollution.

Tuesday: Northern Ireland Orders. Civic Government (Scotland) Bill, report.

Wednesday: Debate on less developed countres.

Thursday: Two marriage enabling Bills. Civil Jurisdiction and Judgments Bill, third reading. Mental Health (Amendment) Bill, third reading. Antiquities Bill, committee.

Guidance on setting up trusts

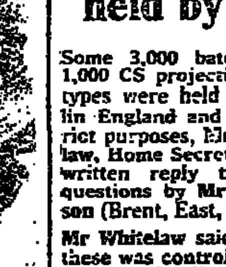
HOUSE OF LORDS

A Government minister rejected a call by Lady Ewart-Biggs (Lab) for new legislation on disaster funds despite the problems which followed the Penlee lifeboat tragedy. But he added that guidance was being prepared to help in the establishment of trusts.

Lord Belstead, Under Secretary of State, Home Office, said: The Government does not think new legislation is necessary. What this tragic case has shown is that the organizers of disaster appeals need to be fully aware of the financial and legal consequences to the beneficiaries of establishing either charitable or private trusts, and the Government is preparing suitable guidance for the legal profession, banks and other bodies.

The Charity Commissioners are always prepared to give advice to appeals organizations about establishment of charitable trusts as a matter or urgency.

Lady Ewart-Biggs: We have learnt that the machinery at our disposal is not sufficient because so much money has come in for the needs of dependants. This has created hostility and drawn suspicious attention to dependants. It has deprived some good charitable associations of resources which might well have gone to them. Perhaps the time has come to think about a national fund operated by a disaster committee.



Ewart-Biggs: Hostility has been created

Lord Belstead: A general fund could well inhibit the generous public response to locally-initiated appeals. The machinery for charitable giving is suitable if it is understood. This is why the Attorney General (Sir Michael Havers) is preparing the guidance I mentioned.

Lord Elwyn-Jones for the Opposition: Is this an appropriate moment to look again at the charity law because of the confusion and difficulty which has arisen?

Lord Belstead: No.

Transfer of power must be effective

DEVOLUTION

The return of political responsibility to Northern Ireland could do more than anything to help with both security and the serious economic situation, Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said during a question on his proposals for a devolved government in the province.

He was earlier warned by Mr James Molyneaux (South Antrim), leader of the official Ulster Unionists, that a devolved Government would have to have real power from day one if disaster was to be avoided.

A powerless assembly (he said) would create and generate friction between the political parties in Northern Ireland and inflict further damage on the country.

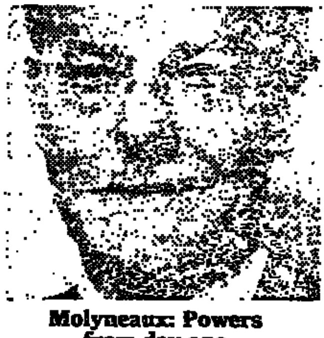
Mr Prior replied that in his opinion it was not necessary for all the powers in a devolved government to be exercized from day one, although the powers should be available for transfer from day one, provided the circumstances which the Government considered necessary were met. These were all matters for further discussion.

Mr Prior explained that his talks with the Northern Ireland political parties were continuing. He had discussed various options with them and had found it invaluable to have their views on what was and was not acceptable to them.

I am convinced (he went on) that there is now an overwhelming desire for a move towards greater political responsibility to be exercized within the province. My task is to seek to narrow the area of difference between the parties so that a transfer of power is not only desirable but effective. In due course I hope to bring firm proposals before the House.

Mr James McCusker (Armagh, Off UU): Bearing in mind what he has said about a weighted majority, does he see that in the context of a percentage of the total membership of any such assembly, or a percentage of those who would vote on any particular issue?

Considering how difficult it would be to get a 70 per cent consensus on any issue in this House or in any other elected assembly, is he not in danger of putting an insurmountable barrier before this elected assembly in Northern Ireland?



Molyneaux: Powers from day one

It would be better to put the onus on the wreckers who would not want to make progress in an assembly, to put their troops into the lobby against the pressures of those who might be trying to get an agreement.

Mr Prior: These are matters I am considering. One of the matters is the question of the weighted majority. I have taken note of his comments on turning it round the other way, but it is to early to draw any definite conclusions from the talks I have had.

Mr Anthony Marlow (Northampton, North,C) said during later exchanges: If the Secretary of State and the Government were to say that they wanted Northern Ireland to stay part of the United Kingdom in perpetuity, this would be good news for the law-abiding Unionist majority, Protestant and Catholic, and bad news for the minority men of violence who believe they are embarking on a war of attrition and one last kick and some British government will concede to them unification with the Irish Republic.

Will he state that he wishes Northern Ireland to remain in the perpetuity part of the UK?

Mr Prior: I would like to say three things on what is a difficult and delicate subject. First, I believe that consent and self-determination is the important factor.

Second, we should seek to show that there are great advantages for all the people of Northern Ireland in remaining part of the UK. Third, we have to recognize that there is a problem of identity for parts of the minority community.

If we can recognize that problem of identity sensibly, I believe that all the people of Northern Ireland would wish to remain part of the UK.

Riot control weapons held by police

Some 3,000 baton rounds and 1,000 CS projectiles of approved types were held by polie forces lin England and Wales for antirict purposes, Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, stated lin a written reply to a series of questions by Mr Reginald Freeson (Brent, East, Lab).

Mr Whitelaw said the storage of these was controlled by the chief officers of police concerned. The Home Office was continuing to study water cannon that were, or might be, available for use by the police in riots.

At present two former military vehicles were on loan to the police for assessment. Full account would be taken in the course of these studies of any risk of injury associated with the use of water cannon.

Advice on the assessment of risks associated with the use of baton rounds had been made available to him by the Secretary of State for Defence (Mr John Nott).

A variety of riot control equipment had been acquired by police forces since July 1981. This included helmets, shields, fireproof overalls and other supporting equipment. Such equipment was regularly evaluated by the Home Office

season.—Agence France-

The return match will be played in Holland in March 30.

Reagan rethinks plans to cut nuclear arms

From Mohsin Ali, Washington, Feb 25

The Reagan Administration is working on a radical proposal for substantial reductions in the strategic nuclear arsenals of the United States and the Soviet Union, according to American officials. The aim would be to "reduce the aggregate destructive capability of the strategic nuclear arsenals in a militarily significant way".

Among options being considered are possible direct limitations on the number of nuclear warheads, missile "throw-weight" (lifting power) and guidance systems accuracy.

The officials emphasized that the Administration also wanted any new treaty to include adequate verification measures, because it was essential the two sides should have confidence that neither was cheating.

Any such plan would be presented at strategic arms reduction talks (Start) between the two superpowers. But the officials cautioned that the opening of these negotiations depended on an improvement in East-West relations.

The Start process could not be insulated from other international events, officials said. "The continuing repression of the Polish people — in which the Soviet responsibility is clear — obviously constitutes a major setback for East-West relations", they said, therefore it was not appropriate in the present circumstances to discuss a date for beginning Start.

Although the United States does not expect early strategic arms talks because of the Polish crisis, officials are preparing themselves for the time when negotiations with Moscow can resume.

What the United States would hope to achieve would be a treaty that would "enhance the security of both the superpowers by reducing the instability and unpredictability of the strategic nuclear balance".

Under the 1972 Salt 1 treaty and the 1974 Vladivostok agreement, ceilings were placed on the number of long-range bombers and strategic missile launch pads each side could have. But there were no limits set on the number of warheads each missile could carry.

The Salt 2 treaty of 1979 limited each side to 2,400 inter-continental ballistic missiles and bombers each and also placed some limits on multiple warheads. But that reaty was not ratified by the United States Senate because of Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan.

It would have limited land-based missiles on each side to a maximum of 10 warheads apiece. However, the Soviet SS18 missile is capable of carrying up to 30 warheads, whereas the proposed new American MX missile will only carry around 10.

According to official American figures, at the beginning of last year the United States had 1,630 land- and sea-based missiles compared with the Soviet Union's 2,348 missiles. However, the United States possessed 570 long-range bombers against 156 by the Soviet Union.

American experts are now working on a new "unit of account or measurement" which would more correctly represent the offensive nuclear capabilities of the two countries.

The two countries have already had preliminary diplomatic contacts over some of the new American thinking, but no details are available. Officials emphasized that before any proposal was adopted by the Reagan Administration, there would be close consultations with Nato, which is due to hold a summit meeting in Bonn in June.

□ *Moscow:* President Brezhnev today denounced the United States for dragging its feet in a variety of arms control talks, and called for a prompt result at the Geneva negotiations on medium-range missiles in Europe (Michael Binyon writes).

In a statement on the front page of *Pravda*, the Soviet leader spoke of the urgency of reaching agreements to stop the arms race before the end of the forthcoming special United Nations session on disarmament, and said his country would do "everything within our power" to facilitate agreements.

But he accused the United States of failing to support a declaration not to be the first country to use nuclear weapons, and of procrastinating ratification of the 1974 underground nuclear test ban treaty. He cast doubt on American intentions of reaching agreements in other fields.

Ostensibly addressing his calls to an unidentified Australian peace organization which had written to him asking about Soviet attitudes to arms control, Mr Brezhnev repeated Soviet entreaties for a swift resumption of the Salt talks limiting strategic nuclear arms.

He added: "The Soviet Union is ready for this at any moment, but the American side is incessantly postponing the dialogue on this problem which worries the whole of mankind."

He said it was also extremely urgent to resume the Soviet-American talks on prohibiting chemical weapons, which he said were unilaterally interrupted by the American side.

□ Vienna: Western representatives here said today that they would study carefully a Warsaw Pact draft agreement tabled last week, on reducing both sides' troops in central Europe to see if it could help revive deadlocked negotiations (Reuter reports).

Herr Walter Boss, the West German Ambassador, told the 297th plenary session of the 19-nation Vienna talks that have dragged on for eight years that the Eastern draft failed to deal with issues that were crucial for the west.

Steelmen step up 'dead town' strikes

From Ian Murray, Brussels, Feb 25

For the second day running, the steel industry in Belgium was paralysed today by strikes as angry workers took to the streets and the railway lines to emphasize their concern about the Government's economic programme.

Charleroi, the second French-speaking city of Belgium, was completely halted and trains in and out of Namur were blocked. Liège was only slightly more active than on the previous day when a "dead town" tactic was ordered by the unions.

The reaction in French-speaking Wallonia is in response to the austerity measures declared by the Government last weekend with the devaluation of the Belgian franc and to the threat hanging over the entire Belgian steel industry.

Some 100,000 jobs in Wallonia depend directly or indirectly on the steel industry in the area

This concern was evident earlier in the month when steelworkers demonstrated in Brussels to save their jobs and were involved in violent incients with mounted police.

The Government promise that interests the unions is that there will be a three-month total price freeze, save for some very deserving special cases. Only in these circumstances will the unions be likely to accept the three-month wage freeze which has now been imposed.



Hitting the top note

Sheana Easton, the Scottish rock singer with her Grammy award in Los Angeles. Miss Easton, aged 22, was judged best recording artist of the year for *Morning Train* and *For Your Eyes Only*.

Yoko Ono, struggling to hold back tears, was given a standing ovation when she and her late husband, John Lennon, won an award for their record album, *Double Fantasy*.

Lena Horne, won two Grammys — for best femal pop vocal performace and for best cast show album.

Other winners included Police the British rock group, Dolly Parton, the country and western singer, and Sir Georg Solti and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

Uproar at trial of 'Islamic Guards'

From Our Own Correspondent Paris, Feb 25

The trial of five men charged with attempting to assassinate Mr Shampour Bakhtiar, the former Iranian Prime Minister, in July, 1980, nearly broke up in confusion today.

The men, belonging to a group of *Pasdarans* (Guardians of the Islamic Revolution) who were in the dock at Nanterre, a Paris suburb, rejected the right of French justice to try them, and refused to be defended by French counsel.

Mr Bakhtiar, who has been living in exile in France since 1979, narrowly escaped assassination when three men, posing as journalists, tried to break into his flat in Neuilly. They were stopped by the strong police guard.

In the shooting which broke out, one police officer was killed, and two were injured.

The court building and its precincts were cordoned off by 500 gendarmes and riot police with police dogs.

Only two people were in the public gallery, a cousin of Mr Bakhtiar, and the wife of the alleged leader of the group, Mr Anis Naccache, a Lebanese and member of the Palestinian Fatah organization.

As they were led into the court, the defendants shouted: "Death to the traitors", and "Down with the United States, down with Russia, down with Mitterrand".

When three women were drawn by lot to sit on the jury, Mr Naccache jumped up shouting, "Islam forbids women to be judges. We reject all women."

Elysée summit irons over the differences

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Feb 25

President Mitterand and Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, today emphasized the close ties between their countries in the face of the grave threat from the revived tension between East and West, and the world economic crisis.

Hence the deliberate solemnity of the thirty-ninth Franco-German summit which ended here today, and of a final declaration, which emphasizes the similarity of their analysis of these and other world problems, even if they have different views on their solution.

Their standpoints are practically identical on the condemnation of the repression in Poland taken "under pressure and with the assistance of the Soviet Union", on the need to restore the balance of forces in Europe through the stationing of American theatre nuclear weapons, and simultaneously to pursue talks on arms limitation; and on the "vital strengthening of the solidarity between the United States and the other members of the Atlantic Alliance."

They both opposed any "transfer of the East-West conflict to the Third World", and the importance of "the development to ıe South in the spirit of non-alignment," which was enshrined in the Cancún declaration last summer. But at their press conference after the talks it was quite clear from the Chancellor's silence on the subject that he has strong misgivings about French assistance to "liberation movements" in Central America.

They also agreed on "the very grave consequences" for European economies of high United States interest rates, and on their "determination to do something about it," in agreement with their partners in the Community.

However the Bonn Government is obviously not prepared to go as far as France on recommending to them European counter-measures if their representations to Washington remain unheeded.

Their approach to the difficulties in the EEC is also different: they are at one in the need to overcome them "in a spirit of solidarity". But according to German sources, if the Bonn Government agrees to defend Community institutions, it does not wholly endorse the French standpoint on agricultural prices, and does not want to get involved in the controversy between Paris and London on the Community budget.

□ *Manchester:* Mr Christopher Tugendhat, a vice-president of the EEC Commission, to-night expressed strong anxiety about Europe's relations with America. (Denis Taylor writes). He said that if the Community failed to rise to the international challenges with which it was confronted, it "will I fear, sink into the same limbo of lingering irrelevance as the League of Nations".

In a speech here he said: "I am particularly worried about the effects of Europe's disunity and inability to respond to crises on our relations with the United States".

Words that Koch may have to eat

New York, Feb 25. — Mr Edward Koch, the Mayor of New York, calls Mr Richard Nixon a "phoney", Mr Spiro Agnew "spittle" and Britain's Foreign Secretary, Lord Carrington, a "schmuck" in an interview with *Playboy*

The outspoken mayor, who announced on Monday that he is running for Govenor, also says Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, and Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, are terrible.

Observers predicted that some of his derogatory comments about the constituency he now seeks — the rest of New York State — would return to haunt him

In the interview, conducted last December, Mr Koch said he would never run for Governor because it was "a terrible position" and called the president of the city council, Mr Carol Bellamy, who would succeed him as mayor should he be elected governor, a "pain in the ass".

Yesterday the mayor sought to take the edge off his comments by asserting he intended them as jokes. But he acknowledged they were embarrassing. — Reuter.

Indonesia's sea claim supported

From David Watts, Singapore, Feb 25

Malaysia today recognized Indonesia's controversial "archipelagic principle" setting what could become a precedent for the forthcoming law of the sea negotiations.

Under the principle, Indonesia lays claim to all the waters enclosed within lines drawn from the outermost points of its more than 13,000 islands, covering some 660,000 square miles of ocean.

Malayan recognition of the claim is included in a maritime agreement signed today in Jakarta. It relates particularly to the waters of the South China Sea and those between penisular and East Malaysia.

Malaysia recognizes Indonesia's exclusive territorial and economic rights over the waters under the archipelagic principle sought for the past two decades by Dr Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, the Indonesian Foreign Minister. In turn, Indonesia recognizes Malaysia's traditional fishing rights and rights of free passage for the laying of undersea cables

Plea to Greek troops

From Mario Modiano, Athens, Feb 25

The Greek military leadership and some 250 senior officers of the Athens garrison today heard Mr Andreas Papandreou, the Prime Minister, outline his Socialist Governmment's national strategy, and urge them to keep politics out of the barracks.

In this first contact between Mr Papandreou, who is also Minister of Defence, and the commanders of military units deployed in the vicinity of the capital, the Prime Nminister explained why he was pressing Nato to grant Greece guarantees against an attack from Turkey.

"We are the only Nato country facing a threat from another ally on the east," he said. "This unique position explains why, within the framework of the alliance, we are demanding guarantees for our frontiers as well as military aid on a scale that would maintain the equilibrium in the Aegean."

In order to consolidate its independence even within the alliance, Greece should develop other sources of armaments and build up the domestic arms industry, he said. The Greek armed forces are 90 per cent American equipped.

Mugabe pledge to Carrington over detainees

From Michael Hornsby, Salisbury, Feb 25

The political crisis in Zimbabwe after last week's dismissal of Mr Joshua Nkomo from the coalition Cabinet was discussed during an hour-and-a-half meeting in Salisbury today between Mr Robert Mugabe, the Zimbabwean Prime Minister, and Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary.

Lord Carrington arrived in the morning on a two-day official visit, the first since he attended the celebrations of Zimbabwe's independence in April, 1980, which was made possible by the Lancaster House agreement signed in December of the previous year.

No details were available of the Foreign Secretary's talk with the Prime Minister, who took the initiative by offering his own explanation of recent events. It is underdtood that Mr Mugabe also gave an assurance that several white politicians in detention since last year would soon be brought to trial.

British officials travelling with Lord Carrington were at pains to point out that his visit was arranged some months ago and should not be seen in any sense as a response to current events. It eas also "nonsense" to suggest that the Foreign Secretary had come to Salisbury to monitor the Zimbabwe Government' observance of the Lancaster House agreement.

The present crisis was provoked by the unearthing of large caches of weapons on farms owned by Mr Nkomo's Patriotic Front (Zapu) party. A new cache, including 200 land mines, 3,000 rounds of ammunition, and seven missiles was found today near the Midlands town of Gwelo.

The chief danger in the tense situation created by Mr Nkomo's dismissal is that it would set off factional fighting within the army, which wws formed by merging the former guerrilla forces of both Mr Nkomo and Mr Mugabe. There was a serious outbreak of such fighting in garrisons in Bulawayo, Mr Nkomo's home town, a year ago.

Lord Carrington was briefed this afternoon on the army's so far quiescent reaction to the political crisis by Major-General Colin Shortiss, who heads the British military advisory and training team which was requested by Mr Mugabe to supervise the intergration of the two guerrilla forces.

After a brisk and business-like welcome this morning at Salisbury airport, Lord Carrington went straight into talks with Mr Witness Mangwende, the Zimbabwe Foreign Minister, who expressed some concern about the slow pace of the negotiations over the future of Namibia (South-West Africa.)

In a discussion with Mr Bernard Chidzero, the recently appointed Minister of Finance, Lord Carrington asked whether it might be possible to ease the problems of British citizens with investments in Zimbabwe who are unable to take out their capital.

Lord Carrington presented Mr Mugabe with a belated independence gift from the British Government and people. This was a silver dinner table centre piece surmounted by copies of the carved stone birds found at the Great Zimbabwe ruins.



Salisbury smiles: Lord Carrington presenting Mr Mugabe with a belated independence gift.

Finance surprise in big Kenyan reshuffle

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi, Feb 25

President Moi reshuffled Kenya's Cabinet extensively today, moving Mr Mwai Kibaki, the Vice-President, from the Finance Ministry to Home Affairs.

Mr Charles Njonjo, another key figure who was previously Minister of Constitutional and Home Affairs, is now merely Minister of Constitutional Affairs and is no longer responsible for the Criminal Investigation Department.

Mr Kibaki and Mr Njonjo have been regarded here as involved in a power struggle, although they and President Moi have always insisted there is no such struggle within the Cabinet or the ruling Kenya African National Union.

Mr Arthur Magugu, the new Finance Minister, was formerly Minister of Health. He is not generally known here as a financial expert, and his appointment has caused some surprise, coming at a time when Kenya, like other developing countries, faces serious economic problems.

No minister has been dropped, but only nine of the 25 retain their former posts.

Two more ministries have been created, and the two ministers of state in the President's office, who have been close to President Moi since he took office on the death of President Kenyatta in 1978, have been named to fill the new posts.

Mr Godfrey Kariuki, formerly Minister of State with responsibility for internal security, becomes Minister of Lands, Settlement and Physical Planning. Mr Nicholas Biwott, the other former Minister of State, becomes Minister of Regional Development, Science and Technology.

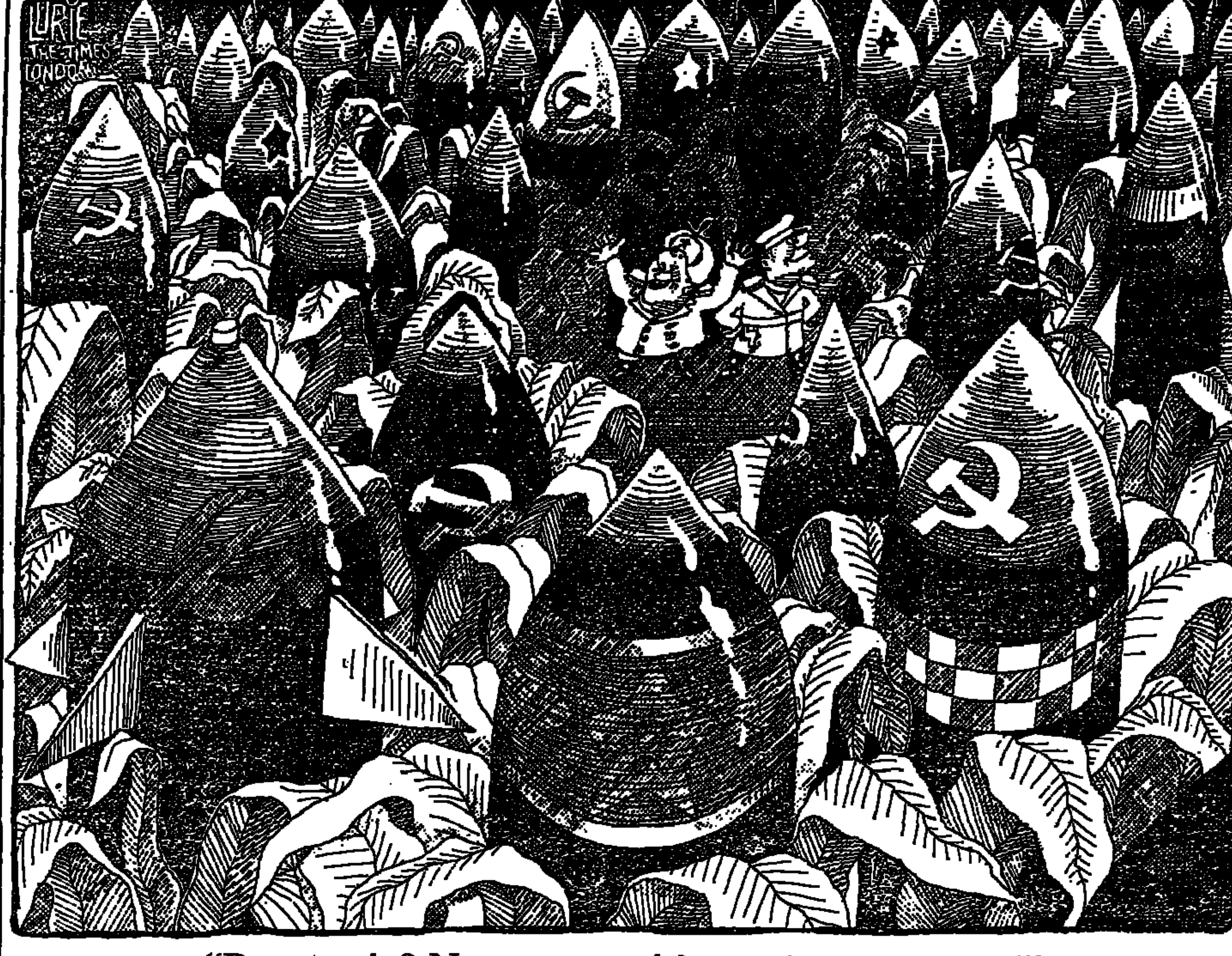


Mr Mwai Kibaki: Moving to Home Affairs.

The full cabinet is: President: Daniel Moi. Vice-President and Home Affairs: Mwai Kibaki. Constitutional Affairs: Charles Njonjo. Finance: Arthur Magugu. Water Development: Jeremiah Nyagah. Economic Planning and Development: Zachary Onyonka. Cooperative Development: Robert Matano. Agriculture: Munyua Walyaki. Local Government: Stanley Oloitipitip. Information and Broadcasting: Ellud Mwanunga. Livestock Development: Paul Ngei.

Foreign Affairs: Robert Ouko. Lands, Settlement and Physical Planning: Godfrey Kariuki. Regional Development. Science and Technology: Nicholas Biwott. Works and Housing: Charles Rubia. Higher Education: Joshua Kanotho. Commerce: John Okwanyo. Culture and Social Services: Moses Mudavidi. Tourism and Wildlife: Elijah Mwangale.

Energy: Gilbery M'mbijiwe. Basic Education: Jonathan Ngeno. Industry: Andrew Muwanga. Transport and Communications: Henry Kosgey. Environment and Natural Resources: Peter Oloo Aringo. Labour: Titus Mbathi. Health: A Mukasa Jmango. Attorney-General: J Kanau Kamero.—Reuter.



"Poor grain? Nonsense — it's our best year ever!"

Struggle in Central America

Reagan snubs Mexican mediation offer

President Reagan's speech to the Organization of American States yesterday, in which he proposed an economic plan for Central America and the Caribbean, contained one big omission which has provoked adverse comment in the region.

He failed to respond to an offer made last weekend by President José Lopez Portillo of Mexico to act as a "communicator" between countries in the region which are at loggerheads, notably the United States, Cuba, Nicaragua and El Salvador.

Most of President Reagan's speech was devoted to outlining details of his plan to increase economic assistance to the region by $350m (about £190m) this year, provide tax incentives for American firms willing to invest in the region and give duty-free access to the United States for most of the region's exports.

However, the President also included tough warnings against Cuba and the Soviet Union attempting to extend their influence, and attacked Nicaragua for being a "platform for covert military action".

In his speech made in the Nicaraguan capital of Managua last Sunday, President Reagan's much heralded statement, outlined a three-part peace plan. This called for a negotiated settlement of El Salvador's civil war, a non-aggression pact between the United States and Nicaragua and talks between the United States and Cuba to cool mutual hostility.

The Mexican leader's speech has already been warmly received by Cuba and Nicaragua. However Mr Reagan's failure even to refer to the Mexican initiative shows that the United States is decidedly cool about it.

State Department officials have emphasized that the United States is opposed to a negotiated settlement in El Salvador as they believe this would open the door to a left-wing takeover. Instead the United States supports the elections which are to be held at the end of next month, even though the elections are being boycotted by most left-wing parties.

The officials also pointed out that the United States had already told Nicaragua it was prepared to improve relations with the left-wing Sandinist regime in Managua provided that it ended its support for left-wing guerrillas in El Salvador. But this had not occurred, officials said.

Although the United States is cool about the Mexican leader's proposals, the fact that Mr Reagan did not even acknowledge them has caused particular surprise, because the President has been trying to establish close ties with his Mexican counterpart. "I was absolutely astounded by this omission", one Central American diplomat said.

The President's Caribbean plan has produced a predictable response from countries in the area — generally hostile from Cuba and Nicaragua, and warm from Costa Rica, El Salvador and Jamaica.

Mr Edward Seaga, the Jamaican Prime Minister, whose country is already receiving substantial American aid, said the plan was "bold, historic and far-reaching in concept".

However, there are widespread doubts about aspects of the plan. Representatives from countries in the region said they expected it to get strong opposition from United States interest groups, notably the sugar lobby. They also doubted that the President's initiative would do much to encourage new American investment in the region given the present state of the United States economy.

Meanwhile, the Pentagon is continuing with plans for a Nato exercise to take place in the Gulf of Mexico next month. The exercise will involve about 30 warships, 80 aircraft and about 10,000 men.

The 10-day exercise is code-named "Operation Safe Pass". It is expected to include warships from the United States, Britain, West Germany, Belgium and The Netherlands.

Officials said the exercise reflects United States concern over increased Soviet arms supplies to Cuba. Last year Cuba received 66,000 tons of war supplies from the Soviet Union, more than any year since the Cuban missile crisis. Last month senior United States officials disclosed that Cuba had received a second squadron of MiG 23s from the Soviet Union.

☐ Moscow: Tass today denounced President Reagan's Caribbean aid package saying it was aimed at supporting "counter-revolutionary elements and bloodstained repressive regimes" in the region (Reuter reports).

Tass, reporting from Washington, said President Reagan's announcement was intended to ensure continued United States domination of the caribbean region.

Washington intended to send aid to repressive regimes such as those in El Salvador, Guatemala and Haiti, "to strangle the mounting national liberation movement of the peoples and to perpetuate United States neo-colonialist dominance".

Girl guerrilla keeps her mission a secret

From Paul Ellman, Santa Clara, El Salvador, Feb 25

The crowd huddled in the dingy town square was visibly terrified. "We heard that they were going to bomb our village so we ran away," Señor Moldalno Iraete, an elderly man wearing the straw hat of a Salvadorean fieldworker, said.

"It is all a misunderstanding, was the retort of the head of the local National Guard detachment, a plump sergeant with little apparent interest in finding out what was happening in the village, less than a mile out of town.

"I have heard there are guerrillas on the road, so be careful," he warned a carload of reporters trying to establish where the fighting is taking place, and its intensity on a broad front where both sides have been claiming victories during the past week.

Salvadorean troops yesterday pulled out of this area, about 45 miles east of San Salvador on the border between the provinces of San Vicente and Cabañas, after a five-day operation.

According to Colonel Sigfriedo Ochoa, the army commander for the region, the operation was a success. The colonel said his troops had flushed guerrillas out of eight camps, killing 28.

The guerrillas positioned at a road just outside Santa Clara offered a different version of the battle. More likely we killed 28 of them, snorted Compañera Claudia, a beautiful girl guerrilla with long black hair and silver earings who has been fighting with the Revolutionary Army of the People (ERP) for just over a year.

This is one of five armies fighting under the umbrella of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front against the junta of civialian and military figures headed by President Duarte.

Clutching an M1 carbine and a bag of rations which included sardines, powdered milk and lollipops, Claudia explained that the guerrillas had a different view of victory and defeat. "It is normal that when the army comes to our camp we leave. It is not as if we lived in brick houses," she said.

Her detatchment had been ordered to regroup around Santa Clara. "We are waiting for the army to come down the road after us. We have a mission, but that's is a secret."

The operation which just ended here was one of four conducted by Salvadorean forces on a broad territory running between 30 and 40 miles north and east of the capital.

Its aim is to try to break up large concentrations of guerrillas which have formed on this front, apparently to disrupt the closing stages of campaigning in the election scheduled for March 28.

Although the Salvadorean command appears to be succeeding in its aim, the operations seem cumbersome and almost leisurely, certainly lacking the vicious intensity of edited television films.

The troops take shelter from the scorching sun early in the day and the torpid stillness is only occasionally broken by the crack of carbine fire or the distant boom of an artillery shell.

The guerrillas appear to have moved out of some of their strongholds, at least for the time when the Army is around.

Their failure to launch a counter-offensive is said by political sources to be the result of a debate among the guerrillas' political leadership over tactics to pursue in election time.

S. AFRICAN TRUCE UNLIKELY

From Gerald Shaw
Cape Town, Feb 25

The split in the National Party appeared irreversible today as neither faction showed any inclination to back down and save the unity of Nationalist Afrikanerdom. Mr P. W. Botha, the Prime Minister, who is visiting Namibia (South West Africa), appears reconciled to the loss of at least 22 MPs, including two Cabinet ministers and three party party whips.

Mr Botha's reform-minded supporters welcome the parting of the ways with the right wing as they beieve this will free the National Party to pursue policies of reform with greater purpose and dispatch.

In smoke-filled back rooms at parliament the opposing factions were today counting heads and planning tactics for a meeting of the Transvaal head committee of the party, which is due to take place in Pretoria on Saturday. If Dr Andries Treurnicht, Minister of State Administration and the right wingers' leader, wins a vote of confidence then he would be well placed to call a party congress and capture the party machine in the Transvaal.

The marijuana boom

A pot of gold in the Californian fields

From Ivor Davies, Los Angeles, Feb 25

In the past year California's agricultural industry grossed $13,200m (£7,250m) from its wide variety of produce. However, that figure does not include income derived from a plant that is being cultivated and harvested on thousands of acres of land in the Golden State.

All over California, particularly in the less densely populated areas in the north of the state, farmers busily cultivate annual crops of marijuana. Experts believe it has become a multi-billion dollar industry that rivals the revenue of such titans as General Motors and the bigger oil companies.

Exactly how lucrative a business the illegal sale of marijuana, pot, grass or cannabis has become nobody knows for certain. This week, the California Drug Enforcement Bureau reported that, in the past year, its agents had seized 175,563 illegal plants, totalling some 219,000lb of marijuana. A street value of some $2,000 a pound means that the confiscated drugs were worth almost $500m.

Captain Robert Blanchard, commanding officer of the Los Angeles police department's narcotics division, who recently testified to a Congress select committee looking into the mushrooming use and abuse of illegal drugs, estimates that agents confiscate a mere 10 per cent of the marijuana grown and sold around the United States.

In a city the size of Los Angeles, police last year seized more than 40,000lb of marijuana, fractionally less than the year before. Captain Blanchard explains the drop by pointing out that in the previous year his detectives had confiscated in one sweep some 18 tons of marijuana from a yacht once used by President Roosevelt.

"I do not believe marijuana activity is on the decline", he says. "There are thousands of acres being used to grow the stuff, and drug agents have only been able to hit the tip of that iceberg.

However, Captain Blanchard does say that the crackdown in America's most populous state has forced some growers to move their operations to other states, such as Florida and Arkansas.

He also estimates that Colombia makes over $1,500m a year profit from marijuana shipped to the United States.

Police disagree about the effectiveness of the judicial system once arrests are made in marijuana cases. The Drug Enforcement Agency in Los Angeles says that in 1981 in California 373,000lb of marijuana were seized and some 581 arrests were made. The agency claims a 98 per cent conviction record, but Captain Blanchard says it is impossible to keep track of how many drug growers and traders are convicted.

Californian growers have been monopolizing the marijuana market recently as a result of developing *sinsemilla*, considered one of the most potent forms of marijuana ever produced. Sinsemilla (seedless marijuana) is produced by culling male marijuana plants to prevent the pollination of female plants. That enables the female plants to store in the buds the tetrahydrocannabinol (cannabis) known as THC, not used to produce seeds, thereby making the plants extremely potent.



A hooded farmer guards his illegal crop.

Polish party preserves facade of unity

From Roger Boyes: Warsaw, Feb 25

Reports of the death of Polish communism have, to paraphrase Mark Twain, been gravely exaggerated. That seemed to be the main message, some would say the only message, to emerge from the plenary session of the Central Committee of the Polish Communist Party which ran out of breath here today.

It was the first plenary meeting since the delaration of martial law more than two months ago and was thus expected by many to provide a showdown between frustrated hardline Marxists and frustrated liberal reformers, with General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Polish leader, being caught in the crossfire.

Instead, General Jaruzelski, as party leader, produced a speech that dominated the first day of the plenum, stamping the subsequent discussion, as each Central Committee member seized on an aspect of the statement and developed the theme.

The tone of the general's speech was in line with his moderate position in the party, making a few token concessions to the hardliners — but firmly committing the party to the line of the ninth emergency party congress last summer.

That congress, which trimmed away the extremes of the party, has been regarded with some suspicion by hardliners over the past few months. It made they believe too many concessions to Solidarity, the independant trade unions. It was too articulate in its pledge to political reform.

Hardline delegates were somewhat winded by the speech, coming hard on a Soviet invitation to General Jaruzelski to visit Moscow. However, the influence of these fundamental Marxists, which has grown over the two months since martial law, has not disappeared. Above all, it still has an important right of veto in the party.

Thus the party moderates had been hoping that a draft declaration entitled "What we are fighting for and where we are going" would be adopted by the plenum. But shortly before the plenary session, great resistance was expressed by hardliners at an ideological subcommittee headed by Mr Stefan Olszowski, regarded as a political hardliner in the Politburo.

The balance of forces is not even, that much has become evident in the plenary session. While some speakers have criticized "revisionism"—shorthand for excessive reforming zeal —most have confined their tough statements to safe targets such as criticizing President Reagan, Radio Free Europe, Solidarity or party corruption.

It now seems evident that if there is to be a showdown between those who favour Hungarian-style moderate change and those who support a tough, Czechoslovak-style communism, it will come at the next plenary session.

This plenum has, at least, showed Poles that the Communist Party still exists, that it can preserve a facade of unity.

☐ International Red Cross officials have spoken to 1,000 prisoners in six Polish internment camps over the past month and have secured the release of 130, charity officials said today.

Although the officials were reluctant to discuss conditions in the camps, they said that the 130 had been released mainly because of ill health and a further 38 applications were being considered.

The International Red Cross is the only organization apart from the Catholic Church that has been permitted to visit internees and it is reluctant to lose this privilege by making critical comments.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Bourguiba ultimatum to Gaddafi

Tunis — President Bourguiba of Tunisia has asked Colonel Gaddafi of Libya either to hand back an agreement to merge their contries of face the continuation of an eight-year-old quarrel over the document (informed sources told Reuter) But at their third meeting during the Libyan leaders current visit it was unclear whether Colonel Gaddafi had produced the document.

Tunisia reneged on the merger shortly after Mr Bourguiba and Colonel Gaddafi signed it on the island of Jerba in January, 1974. Mr Bourguiba dismissed his Foreign Minister, saying he had been misled.

Flanked by teenage girl security guards, who were at first barred from the Carthage Palace, met Mr Bourguiba on Wednesday and again late at night for and unscheduled second encounter the sources said. The only reason he was invited to Tunisia was to return the document, they maintained.

Seoul presses peace talks

Seoul. — South Korea took its recent peace offensive towards North Korea a stage further by calling for a meeting between delegations of nine members each headed by Cabinet-rank officials during next month (Jacqueline Redditt writes).

A statement issued by Mr Sohn Jae Shik, the Minister of Unification, made it clear, however, that South Korea could not seriously consider the North's proposal of a meeting of 50 delegates from each side, with those of the South named by the North.

This was "utterly nonsensical and beyond our understanding" Mr Sohn said. The North's choice included banned politicians and people in prison.

Stockman 'not resigning'



Washingon. — The White House moved quickly to scotch rumours that Mr Daivd Stockman, the Budget Director (above) has tendered his resignation as a result of strong criticism in Congress over President Reagan's 1983 budget proposals, "The President is pleased with the job Mr Stockman is doing," the spokesman said.

News reports had quoted unamed Republicans in Congress as saying it was no longer possible for Mr Stockman to survive. Later, a senior Reagan official told reporters on a background basis that it was his understanding that Mr Stockman had tendered his resignation in writing.

Hostages freed by jet hijackers

Beirut—More than 100 hostages were freed unharmed after Muslim gunmen who hijacked a Kuwaiti Airways Boeing 707 at Beirut airport on Wednesday gave themselves up. A clergyman who negotiated with the 12 gunmen said they agreed to surrender in return for moves to investigate the fate of Imam Moussa Sadr, the spititual leader of Lebanon's Shiite Muslims who vanished *in mysterious circumstances* in 1978. The airliner, piloted by an Englishman, Mr Leslie Bradley, native of Northumberland, returned to Kuwait.

Gunmen fail to kill police chief

Iran's Chief of Police, Colonel Ebrahim Hejazi, survived unhurt when gunmen in Tehran fired on his car from all sides, Tehran radio said. He took up his post in September after his predecessor, Mr Houshang Dastgerdi, was killed in a bomb explosion blamed by the authorities on the outlawed Mujahedin guerrilla group.

In the south of the capital, Hojatoleslaw Tassaloti, prayers leader of a mosque, was wounded in the leg by unidentified gunmen.

Malawi turns out for Kaunda

Blantyre.—President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia arrived for a five-day official visit to Malawi, his first since the two former British colonies became independent in 1964. He received a tumultuous welcome from 60,000

CORRECTION

The book by Andre Malraux mentioned in a report from New York on February 23 is *The Royal Way*, not *The Royal Navy*, as stated.

season.—Agence France-

The return match will be played in Holland in March 30.

هكذا من الأصل

ANOTHER FIRST.

TIME: 10.35 a.m.
DATE: February 19, 1982
PLACE: Renton, Washington
EVENT: 757 Inaugural Flight

The take-off was perfect. The flight was smooth and noticeably quiet. The landing: precise.

The 757 maiden flight marks another major step into the fuel-efficient era.

For instance, one 757 will save enough fuel in a single year to fly 186 people around the world 12 times.

Airlines throughout the world placed orders for 136 Boeing 757s, with options on another 71 jetliners, even before No. 1 ever left the ground.

These days, Boeing has a habit of being first.

Just five months ago the Boeing 767, another fuel-efficient jetliner, made its inaugural flight. It is scheduled to go into commercial service in September. In early 1983, after rigid certification tests, the 757 will begin to fly passengers.

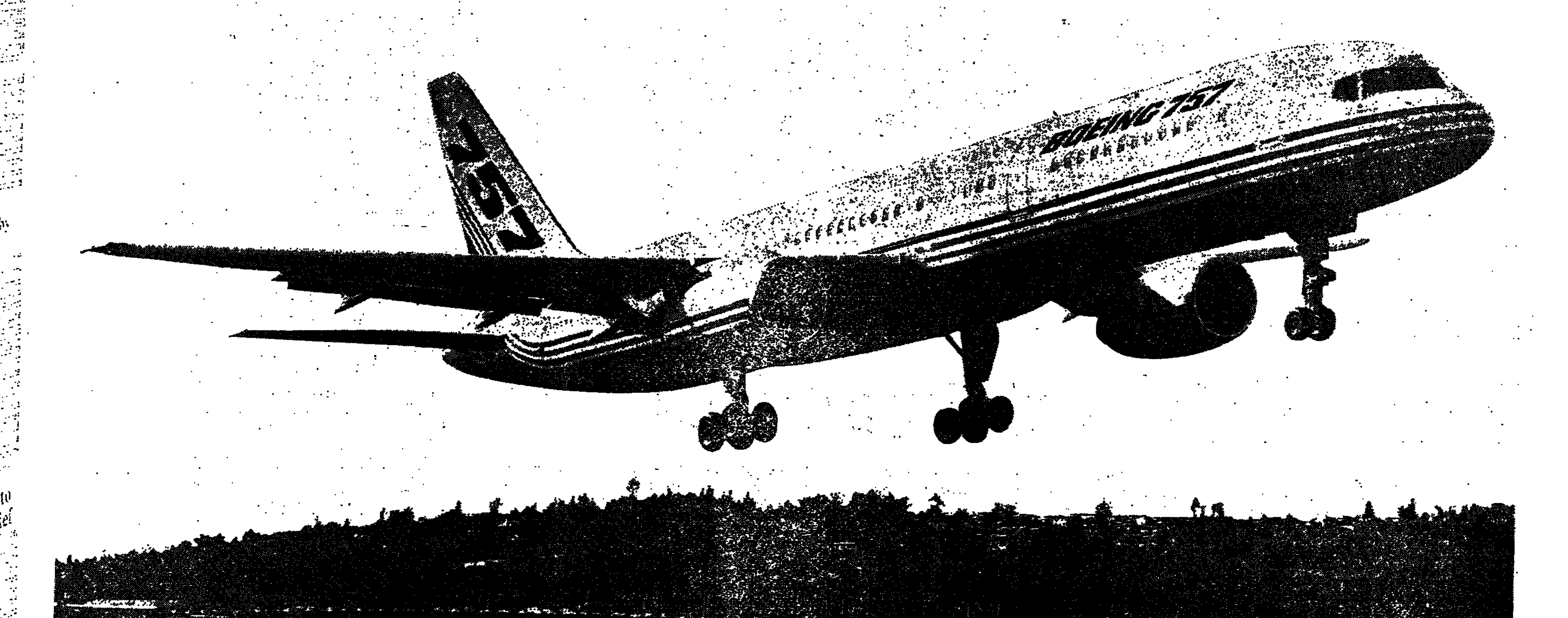
No other manufacturer has ever made such an enormous investment at one time in engineering skill, people-hours and money.

Soon this commitment will begin to pay off for airlines in new fuel economies.

In addition, it will mean consumers will continue to enjoy flying as one of the world's best travel values.



Getting people together.



Israel accuses Western media of distortion

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, Feb 25

The Israeli Government has embarked on a campaign designed to show up alleged double standards by western news organizations in their reporting of events in Israel and the occupied territories as opposed to the Arab world, particularly Lebanon and Syria.

The campaign appears to have been prompted by the recent showing in America of an ABC documentary *Under the Israeli Thumb* highly critical of Israeli policy in the occupied West Bank. Tonight the documentary was reshown by Jordan television, which is widely watched by viewers in Israel and the West Bank.

The drive began earlier this month with an interview given by the director of the government press office, Mr Ze'ev Chafets. The whole issue has now been referred for discussion by the Knesset's foreign affairs and defence committee after a sparsely attended parliamentary debate this week.

The number of newspapers, broadcasting companies and news agencies, including the BBC, Reuters, *The New York Times* and the *Washington Post*, have been accused of deliberately suppressing news about intimidation of their correspondents in Lebanon by Palestinians or Syrians.

Israeli officials have also hinted that the critical ABC documentary could be directly attributed to the brutal murder last year of Mr Sean Toolan, an ABC employee working in Beirut.

Despite claims by journalists on the spot that Mr Toolan's murder was probably attributable to personal matters, or a robbery, the Israelis imply that it was a direct reaction to an earlier ABC film hostile to the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The main thrust of the Israeli argument is that news organizations have distorted their coverage of events in the Middle East because of Palestinian and Syrian threats against their correspondents.

Ironically, the campaign has been launched at a time when the Foreign Press Association in Israel is engaged in a campaign of its own against the Israeli authorities over the continuation of military censorship.

Experienced correspondents based in Jerusalem who have worked in Lebanon and Syria claim that the Israeli campaign is exaggerated, particularly in relation to the PLO, which often chooses for its own reasons to protect journalists. But it is acknowledged that the Syrian authorities have been responsible for threatening — and in some cases initiating — attacks against reporters.

Inside Israel, the public has responded enthusiastically to the Government's allegations, which have reinforced local suspicions that much of the world's media is biased against Israel.

To add to the Israeli suspicions, *The New York Times* — whose Jerusalem correspondent, Mr David Shipler, conducted the original interview with Mr Chafets — omitted reference to the abduction of two of its own correspondents in Lebanon when it carried the interview, which had already been reported in full by the *International Herald Tribune*.

The omission has now been rectified and sections of a report on the abduction by Mr John Kifner, the paper's Beirut correspondent, was quoted in the Knesset debate.

Similarly the Israelis have angrily accused the BBC of deliberately refusing to carry a report by its Jeruslalem correspondent, Mr Michael Elkins, about the government allegations. According to the original Israeli version, two BBC correspondents in Beirut, Mr Tim Llewelyn and Mr Jim Muir, were hurriedly switched to a new base in Cyprus in the summer of 1980 after Syrian threats had been passed on to London via Damascus. The switch follolowered soon after Mr Llewelyn had reported on an assassination attempt against President Assad of Syria.

Dr Eliahu Ben-Elissar the chairman of the foreign affairs and defences committee gave a number of specific examples during his Knesset speech. "The atmosphere of terror surrounding journalists in Beirut gets thicker and thicker", He told deputies.

Troops cut off Druze villages in Golan

From Our Own Correspondent
Jerusalem, Feb 25

Four Druze Arab villages on the Golan Heights were sealed off by troops at dawn today as the Israelis stepped up efforts to break the 12-day old general strike by the 12,500-strong community against the annexation of the Syrian territory.

At the same time, lawyers have appealed to the Amnesty International on behalf of five leading members of the Muslim sect who were placed under detention this month.

An Israel Army spokesman said the decision to seal off the villages was taken for security reasons. Israeli radio later said it had also been made to prevent Israeli left-wingers from entering the villages to encourage the strikers and provide supplies.

None of the villagers, except the few still prepared to go to work in Israel, are allowed to leave. Neither can journalists enter the area.

Pro-Israeli Druzes on the Golan have been shunned by the rest of their community. Today the *Jerusalem Post* reported that one of the most prominent pro-Israeli Golan Arabs, Mr Salman Abu Saleh, had become a labourer on a Jewish settlement after the Druzes boycotted his insurance agency.

The paper also said an opinion poll showed that 66 per cent of Israelis approved the Golan annexation and 27 per cent opposed it.

Coup plot trial

Spain's two worlds square up

From Richard Wigg, Madrid, Feb 25

A line of tiled roof bungalows, looking amazingly like the *cantonments* in India left behind by the British Army, is the first thing you notice as you reach the heavily guarded military area six miles south-west of here where Spain's coup plot court martial is now proceeding.

The well-painted officers' houses with their neat gardens provide a stark contrast with the seedy flat blocks on the outskirts of Madrid rushed up during the boom years of Franco. You have entered another world.

Everything at the court martial emphasizes this sense of isolation, this cantonment world. It begins with the rigid body searches. Civil Guards took away the radio I had brought

No wonder there is tension between this old-fashioned cantonment world and the 50 or so Spanish journalists covering the trial. With only about 10 members of the public admitted daily, the journalists represent the forces of a younger, open society.

The hot stage of the court martial — the replies in cross-examination of the accused and the threatned revelations of the defence counsel — has yet to be reached, but already the danger signs are up for the civilian press.

Señor Pio Cabanillas, the Justice Minister, refused to intervene when asked by MP's about the expulsion of Señor Pedro Ramirez, the 29-year-old editor of *Diario-16* for publishing allegations on the anniversary of the coup about the conduct in Parliament on the night of the coup of one of the accused.

Señor Ramirez: Editor expelled from court

As *El Pais*, the independent Madrid daily, surmised it may have been unthinkable that Lieutenant-General Luis Alvarez Rodriguez, the 65-year-old president of the Supreme Council of Military Justice, should have ordered three generals to appear handcuffed in court, accompanied by 29 other officers, after they had all refused to appear in protest over the newspaper allegations.

The state television rebroadcast on the coup anniversary night its world-famous shots of the seizure of Parliament and the demand, two days later, of Señor Landelino Lavilla, speaker of the Lower House, for all responsible for the outrage to be brought to account.

Lieut-Colonel Antonio Tejero, who led the Civil Guards into Parliament, looks well at the trial. He was heard as he left one session ebulliently commenting how he regretted not hitting Lieut-General Gutierrez Mellado, then deputy Prime Minister, with his pistol butt.

Colonel Tejero has sought to involve Queen Sofia, the daughter of the late King Paul and Queen Frederika of the Hellenes, as well as King Juan Carlos. In written testimony he claimed that Queen Sofia allegedly told General Alfonso Armada at a Pyrenean skiing resort several weeks before the coup attempt "You are the only one, Alfonso, who can save us".

Two leading members of the ruling Centre Democratic Party, contacted between sittings, vigorously defended the King and Queen from the frequently heard defence charge that they allegedly sympathized with coup preparations.

Failure by Shamir on two big issues

From Our Correspondent
Cairo, Feb 25

Egypt and Israel, ending three days of negotiations today, announced some progress but failed to make headway on two issues important to Israel—a date for President Mubarak's proposed visit and a declaration of principles for Palestinian autonomy.

Mr Mubarak's visit is symbolically important to Israel as an indication, Israeli diplomatic sources say, that Egypt will remain friendly after the scheduled withdrawal from Sinai on April 26.

The Israeli Government is also eager to sign the declaration of principles while it still sees the presence of its troops as potential leverage in the negotiations, these sources indicate.

But after a 75-minute meeting with Mr Mubarak, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Foreign Minister, told reporters that although he was sure the visit would take place, the "timing and details will continue to be discussed". He repeated the statement later during a joint press conference with Mr Kamal Hassan Aly, the Egyptian Foreign Minister.

Egyptian sources have said that before committing itslf to a date, Egypt sought assurances from Israel that it would not embark on any move that may embarrass the Egyptian leader, as President Sadat was embarrassed when Israel bombed an Iraqi nuclear plant three days after his meeting with Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister.

Both countries remain far apart on autonomy, which was underlined by statements from both ministers. Mr Shamir, said that in Israel's view, the Palestinians already had a state in Jordan, and that automomy for the 1.3 million living under Israeli rule was a separate issue.

The Egyptian minister replied: "It is not for Egypt of Israel to change the map of the world. Jordan is Jordan. We, (Egypt and Israel) have to continue discussing our differences."

Mr Shamir said Israel had a document on principles of autonomy, which was an "Impressive and sound basis" for the self-rule of the Palestinians.

Egyptian sources say that during the talks with Mr. Shamir Egypt pointed out that it would not sign a declaration which failed to give full judicial, legislative an executive powers to the Palestinians, and would continue to seek a moratorium on Israeli settlements and means of internationalizing Jerusalem.

Mr Shamir said: "Despite our differences in view, it is my conviction that peace (between Egypt and Israel) will continue after April 26.

☐ Tel Aviv: The opposition Labour Party today declined to join the ruling Likud coalition in a government of national unity. The central committee overwhelmingly endorsed a letter to Mr Begin from Mr Shimon Peres, the Labour leader, rejecting the invitation to open negotiations (Moshe Brilliant writes).

However, Mr Peres said Labour had agreed to join Likud deputies in a delegation to the United States to explain Israel's opposition to the sale of advanced weapons to Jordan.

India and Pakistan sour again

From Trevor Fishlock
Delhi, Feb 25

The new initiative by Inda and Pakistan to bring some trust and understanding to their strained relationship has quickly soured.

India withdrew today from the second round of talks on a non-aggression pact, due to start on Monday, because it is upset by remarks about Kashmir made by a Pakistani diplomat last week. India is adamant that the disputed region is a matter between the two countries and should not be raised elsewhere.

It was not publicly mentioned when the two sides met in Delhi three weeks ago to start talking about a non-aggression agreement. The talks ended on a note of guarded optimism and another round was fixed for Islamabad. These have been postponed indefinitely.

Last week Mr Agha Hilaly, Pakistan's United Nations representative, Human Rights Commission in Geneva, apparently likened the Kashmir question to the Palestinian one.

India's reaction seems to be overdone — it may be that it took the opportunity offered by an affront that was not very serious to withdraw from a process initiated by Pakistan and filled with contradictions and difficulties.

Mr Narasimha Rao, the Indian Foreign Minister, told Parliament today that the remarks were "objectionable and contentious" and that it was inconceivable they had been made without prior approval of the Pakistan Government.



China opens drive to export its workers

From Peter Humphrey, Hongkong, Feb 25

Details of a big Chinese drive to export workers as contract labourers all over the world have begun to emerge in Hongkong as a result of newspaper investigations.

Questions over the extent of the Chinese programme, which according to the middlemen involved will result in an expatriate workforce of more than two million earning billions of pounds in foreign currency by the end of the decade, were raised after recent disclosures by the *South China Morning Post* of poor living conditions among a small group of Chinese contract workers in Hongkong.

The 50 workers engaged on Hongkong Electric's $HK3,500m (£350m) Lamma power station project, were reported to be living in squalid dormitories and under-nourished. They claimed they were receiving monthly only between $HK2,000 and $HK3,000.

The sub-contractor employing them, Ryoden Electric Engineering Ltd, is officially paying wages between $HK2,000 and $HK3,500, plus a daily $HK25 food allowance, for their work on the steel structure installation. Ryoden pays the wages not directly to the workers but to the state-owned Chinese form which hired them out, China Overseas Building Development Co Ltd (COBD).

COBD disputed the workers' claim, saying that they received 80 per cent of their wages: 40 per cent in Hongkong and 40 per cent in China. The company took 20 per cent for expenses.

COBD is the Hongkong subsidiary of the Peking-based China Construction Engineering Corporation (CCEC), which specializes in overseas construction projects and which is registered under China's General Administrative Bureau of Industry and Commerce.

The subsidiary sought to erase the adverse publicity by explaining that the workers were in Hongkong only for training.

The *South China Morning Post* Followed the trail of the Chinese corporation and its subsidiaries through 13,000 workers in the Middle East to a pending deal involving 100,000 Chinese for South Korean firms.

Last year the corporation claimed that 3,000 of its 100,000 staff were overseas on contracts won through competitive international tender. Since 1957 it had completed 475 projects in 56 countries, covering a total building area of 4,842,556 square metres.

The substance of these earlu deals was political: an element of China's Third World Foreign policy. But the undertaking of international contracts by competitive tender and China's success in winning 40 contracts worth nearly $HK500m in 1980 heralded a pragmatic new era. This focuses chiefly of the lucrative Middle East.

An official of the Shangai Labour Bureau, Mr Zhang Zhiyang, stated last month that 60 per cent of the city's youth who entered the job market last year are still awaiting employment, some 10 million youth enter the job market each year. Chinese wages average little more than £17 a month.



Failure by Shamir on two big issues

From Our Correspondent Cairo, Feb 25

Political party finance

Where do the cheques come from?

Why big money is a mixed blessing

by Michael Pintc-Duschinsky

In its first year of existence, the SDP has scored a notable success in its appeal for party funds. It has raised about £750,000, almost exclusively from personal donations and £9 subscriptions from 78,000 members Nevertheless, Social Demccrat leaders are beginning o voice complaints, made fr years by the Liberals, abcit the unfairness of politial funding in Britain. The Tories are nurtured by big business, the Labour Prty by the trade unions. Oher parties must struggle for small individual cntributions.

The SDP has given otice that it will table amendments to the Employment Bll, at present before the Hse of Commons, with the oject of controlling politica' payments by unions andcompanies. The party is exected to propose the reintroduction of "contracting-in" t union political levies in plce of the existing systems of "contracting-out". It alo favours new rules whih would enable union meibers paying the levy to irect their money to a pary of their choice.

Behind the SDP/Liberal demand for refrm lies the assumption tht the two established pares gain substantial politial benefits from the mone provided by their benefacors. This is probably urealistic. An examination c British political finance sows that institutional paments are a mixed blesing and may actually daage the party orgainizatios which they intend to hep.

In the nieteenth century, money wa a vital political asset. A biging purse could still buy aseat in the House of Commns. Until the passage of th Corrupt Practices Act of 883, voters were regularly bribed and the financial burdens of parliamentary lections were astronomical by modern standards. Snce then, legal limits have pogressively reduced the expense of constituency electioeering. In 1880, the averag Conservative candidate sent £48 (at present day prices for each vote received in 1979, the figure was dwn to 13 pence.

Lo costs (and the small electin deposit) now make it possile for third parties to finace large teams of candidate. As far as constituency camaigns are concerned, mory has almost ceased to cout.

Fectioneering by national pary organizations is not sutect to legal restrictions. All the same, central campaign costs have not escalatd. The national campagns of the Conservative, Laour and Liberal parties in 199 cost considerably less, in combination, than in the elctions of 1910. Central sending is effectively curbd by the fact that the parties are not allowed to buy advertising time on television. The most powerful medium of communication cannot be bought by the parties. Instead, they are allocated free broadcasting time according to formulas which, in the past, have favoured the Liberals.

The lion's share of political payments by companies and unions is not devoted to campaigning, but to the maintenance of the Conservative and Labour headquarters and regional organizations between elections. The political value of these central machines varies greatly.

Nearly 60 per cent of the routine income of Conservative Central Office comes from corporate payments. If local party income is taken into account, companies provide 30 per cent of the total. Labour's reliance on union money is even larger: 90 per cent of headquarters income and over 50 per cent of the party's overall income is derived from union political levies.

Between the 1950s and the late 1970s, company payments to the Conservative Party dropped, in real terms, by about 30 per cent. (The fall has been particularly marked since the Conservative defeat in the election of February 1974.) By contrast, union levy funds have kept pace with inflation and have overtaken company payments during the last decade.

By the 1970s, money raised for various Labour Party purposes by the unions was about 30 per cent higher than the total contributed by companies to the Tories. The top three unions alone raised more than the top 800 companies combined. Because of union money, the financial advantage traditionally enjoyed by Tory Central Office over Labour's Head Office has been gradually eroded.

Until the 1950s, the routine income of Tory Central Office was about three times that of Labour's Transport House. The Conservatives benefited from the success of their general election appeals to the business community which produced comfortable surpluses that could be devoted to the expenses of the central organization between campaigns. The fall in company contributions and the rise in union levies meant that, by the late 1970s, central Conservative income was only 44 per cent greater than Labour's (a lead based largely on Conservative constituency contributions).

Since then, the gap has narrowed further and, on present trends, central Labour revenue will overtake that of the Tories by the mid 1980s. Despite falling income, the Tories have continued to outspend Labour and have gone heavily into debt. The £2m spent on political advertising for the 1979 general election led to a deficit of £1.9m in the financial years 1978/9 and 1979/80.

By contrast, burgeoning union levies have increased Labour's headquarters income from £344,000 in 1963 to over £2,500,000 in 1980 (the last year for which there are published accounts). Further increases in union affiliation rates probably put the total over £3m in 1981. Additional union funds enabled the party to move into new headquarters after the last election and union political levy fund reserves total over £5m, a large portion of which will be earmarked for the coming general election campaign.

Yet, this largesse does not appear to have helped the Labour Party. Relatively healthy finances at the centre have gone hand in hand with a catastrophic decline in membership and organization in the constituencies.

The enlarged sums coming into the Labour headquarters have been used only to a limited extent for pump priming at the constituency level. Between 1963 and 1981, the national and regional payroll grew while the number of agents in the constituencies fell from more than 200 to 74. Had Labour's Head Office depended on subscriptions from individual members, rather than on union grants, party officials would have been forced to concentrate on the task of maintaining local organizations.

Beside leading to a neglect of local recruitment, trade union money has been damaging for another reason. The party constitution, as is well known, gives the unions extensive voting powers at the annual party conference. It is not always realized that the voting strength of each union is not related to the size of its levy-paying membership but is determined by the size of its block payment to party headquarters. A union may purchase a block of voting shares ("members") smaller or larger than it actual membership. For example, the Transport and General Workers' Union obtained an extra 250,000 conference votes in 1979 simply by contributing an extra £100,000.

In the long run, the fact that unions control 90 per cent of party conference votes—because of their payments—is one of the main reasons why individual party membership is so pitifully small.

Individual membership reached a peak of about 1 million in the early 1950s. By the time Sir Harold Wilson became premier in 1964 there were over 600,000. When he left office in 1970, there were barely 300,000. The latest membership estimate given by Labour headquarters is 250,000. Trade union financing of the Labour Party has deep historical roots. It was largely responsible for the party's formation in 1900. Since 1945, trade union financing has harmed the Labour Party. It limits the role of the individual member and acts as a deterrent to constituency activity.

For the Conservatives, the impact of business money has been less damaging. Corporate contributions have been less regular than union levies. Partly for this reason, the party has placed heavy financial burdens on its constituency organizations.

Following the severe Conservative defeat in the 1945 election, the party chairman, Lord Woolton, effectively denied access to company payments to most local associations, initiated a scheme of constituency "quota" payments to Central Office and, at the same time banned parliamentary candidates and MPs from subscribing more than £50 a year to their local parties. In order to collect money, they were now obliged to recruit more members and run small scale fundraising events. As Woolton put it in his memoirs:

"The organization of the party was weakest in those places where a wealthy candidate had made it unnecessary for the members to collect small subscriptions".

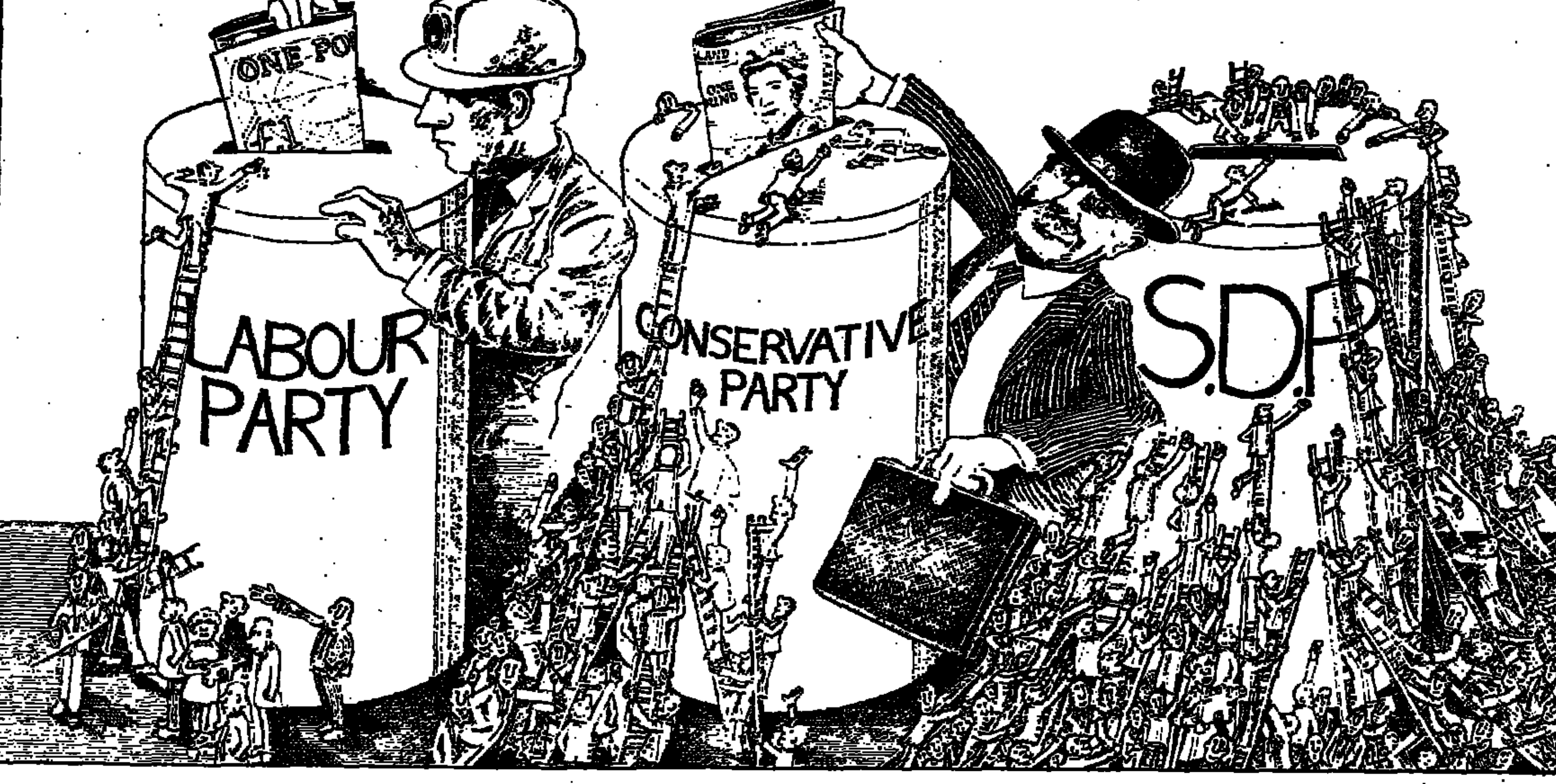
The strategy of stimulating political participation by starving the local associations of easy money from candidates and companies was an unqualified success. Proceeds from those endless coffee mornings and jumble sales permitted the Conservatives to employ more than 400 full-time constituency agents in the 1950s and 1960s.

Though Conservative local organization and membership have been in decline, the problems have been less severe than in the Labour Party. There are probably 1,250,000 to 1,500,000 Conservative party members (five to six times Labour's total); the party still has 300 paid constituency agents; payments to Central Office by the local associations (about £800,000 in 1980/81) have helped to mitigate the effects of falling company payments.

The fate of the Liberals in the 1920s and of Labour since the 1960s carries a warning to the SDP and to the Liberals of today. Social Democrat leaders favour legislative reforms to provide the party with state subsidies and with a share of trade union political levy funds. Despite the comforts of such assured sources of income, there is a danger that they could eventually inhibit the growth of grass roots organization in the constituencies. It is more important for the SDP/Liberal alliance to concentrate on individual fund raising than on a search for state aid or for permanent sources of institutional funds.

British Political Finance 1830-1980 by Michael Pinto-Duschinsky was published on February 25 by American Enterprise Institute, distributed by Transatlantic Book Service, £6.95.

Stephen Johnson



LABOUR

Central income	£2.6million
Union contributions (1980)	approx £4.1 million
Individual membership	250,000

CONSERVATIVE

Central income	£3.2 million
Company contributions (1980)	approx £2.7 million
Individual membership	1¼-1½ million

SDP

Central income	£750,000
—	—
Individual membership	78,000

Political donations: the men who pass round the hat

LABOUR

Alex Kitson, chairman of the Labour Party's finance and general purposes committee, comes nearest to being Labour's chief fund raiser. The post of party treasurer, at present held by Eric Varley, is essentially political and involves little day-to-day contact with party finances.

As deputy general secretary of the biggest trade union, the Transport and General Workers, Kitson is well-placed to tap Labour's most important source of finance. In the year ended December 31, 1980, trade union affiliation fees provided just over £2m of the party's total income of £2½m. Contributions from constituency Labour parties provided £378,000.

Trade unions pay the Labour Party 45 pence each year for every affiliated member. In addition, they



Alex Kitson

are the most important source of help when the party needs extra funds to take it through a financial crisis or to build up the separate General Election funds.

Together with the general secretary, chairman and treasurer, Kitson holds meetings with general secretaries of affiliated trade unions roughly every six months or so "to pass the begging bowl around".

CONSERVATIVE

Alistair McAlpine, honorary treasurer of the Conservative Party since 1975, is the doyen of political fund-raisers in Britain. A director of Sir Robert McAlpine & Sons Ltd, the building firm, since 1963, he has built up close contacts with industrialists to whom he appeals for funds on a carefully selective basis. Those firms known to take a tough line on trade union reform, for example, were approached shortly after the appointment of Norman Tebbit as Employment Secretary.

McAlpine shares the duties of the Conservative Party treasurership with Lord Boardman, former Tory MP and director of Allied Breweries and the National Westminster Bank. The party has two main sources of funds — contributions from constituency associations





Alistair McAlpine

made on a quota basis and donations from business and other corporate sources.

A survey by the Labour Research Department last summer said that company donations to the Conservatives had dropped by more than a third in the past two years. The party's joint treasurers denied its findings. However, the party has been in financial difficulties for some time and has had to shed staff and reduce costs.

SDP

David Sainsbury, finance director of the family grocery chain, spearheads the SDP's drive to attract financial support from industry and other corporate donors. He chairs a financial advisory committee which reports to the party's finance and general purposes committee chaired by Bill Rodgers.

So far, nearly all the party's income of approximately £750,000 has come from members' subscriptions, which are now averaging £11 each. Raising money from the membership through area parties is the responsibility of the Membership Services and Development Committee, chaired by millionaire motorway catering supremo, Clive Lindley.

The wooing of big business by the Social Democrats has only just started. So far the



David Sainsbury

biggest corporate donation has been £5,000 from Marks and Spencer, earmarked specifically for the two joint Liberal-SDP commissions on constitutional reform and industrial regeneration. The Rowntree Trust has also paid the salary of the party's parliamentary secretary.

With its declared opposition to the trade union political levy, the SDP has effectively cut itself off from that particular potential source of funds.

Conservatives

Declining funds

How Tory cash is dwindling

Within the next few weeks, Conservative Central Office will finally publish its accounts for the financial year April 1980/March 1981. The failure to issue the accounts in time for the annual Conservative conference last October was unprecedented and reflected the problems facing the party treasurers ever since the 1979 election campaign.

The balance sheet for 1980-1 will show income of £3.2m and expenditure of £4.7m. The £1½m deficit brought the accumulated Central Office deficit for the three years 1978-9—1980-1 to £3½m. The reserves were £726,000 before this run of losses started and the party now has an overdraft of £1½m and, in addition, it will eventually need to repay emergency loans from a number of constituency associations totalling £500,000. In the current financial year, Central Office hopes to break even or to limit its loss to £100,000. It expects to spend £3.8m (including interest charges) and to raise £3.7m.

The deficit of £1½m 1980-1 was not altogether abnormal. The national organization almost always runs at a loss in the lean year after a general election. What was unusual this time was its failure to make a profit during the General Election itself.

The current financial problem does not result mainly from a sudden decline of business contributions because of the recession. Corporate support has gradually been falling since the 1960s. Some firms, like Thorn and Marley, stopped contributing after Mrs Thatcher's election. Most of the regular contributors have continued to make payments but many have failed to keep pace with inflation (Glaxo's 1981 contribution of £25,000 was the same as in 1977: Consolidated Goldfield's barely raised its payment from £22,000 in 1977 to £25,000 in 1981.)

The fact that the reserves have been exhausted means that the party's investment income has been swamped by debt charges (£180,000 in 1980/1 and £200,000 in the current financial year).

The Tory treasurers are hoping to wipe out the deficit by a sale-and-leaseback deal for its headquarters at 32 Smith Square. Using a bridging loan, the party purchased the freehold of this building a year ago for £1m. It is now negotiating to sell the premises to a pension fund, which will lease back most of the space on a 250-year lease. The deal will enable the bridging loan of £1m to be repaid and it may also provide cash to repay some or all of the party's debts.

But there will be a price to pay. In the future, Central Office may have to pay rent and, by selling off the back of the headquarters building (which it now lets) it will lose a rental income that must be £100,000 a year.

On some previous occasions when the party has been in money trouble (in the late 1940s and the late 1960s), a special financial appeal has been launched to build up a reserve. No simiilar effort is being planned now. The next election may be the first ever in which Labour is able to outspend the Tories.

David Watt

The Labour Party's phoney peace

The pacific "spirit of Bishop's Stortford" is still alleged to brood benignly over the Labour Party — and no doubt it is faintly plausible to claim that the "draw" between left and right at Wednesday's meeting of the party's national executive committee (one Militant in, one out for the time being) represents a balanced conclusion in the Bishop's Stortford mould. But there is a difference between a "draw" and a "truce", as the ferocity and bad temper that apparently characterized the NEC debate made plain.

The truth is that the famous Bishop's Stortford agreement of seven weeks ago was a confidence trick. The trade unions and the parliamentary leadership were desperately anxious to persuade themselves, and anyone else who would listen, that the party bickering would end in the interests of electoral respectability for the duration of this Parliament.

But the flaw in the strategy was that while the high-contracting parties could determine (up to a limited point) what happened in their own bailiwicks, they could not govern events in that part of the party where the trade union and leadership writ does not run — namely in the constituency parties where nearly all the trouble originates. Peace does not break out by a simple declaration on one side.

The reasons why the truce cannot and will not hold are the reasons why the Labour Party got into such a mess in the first place. Unless the entire sociology of Britain changes in a wholly unpredictable and implausible fashion, it is hard to see why Labour's troubles should not continue to accumulate.

There is no particular mystery about what has been going on — endless commentators, to say nothing of a vast academic literature, have charted the downward path. The argument starts with the decline of the class system in this country and the rise of television (separate, but not entirely disconnected phenomena). The number of old-style, dyed-in-the-wool manual workers, even in the north, who vote Labour out of atavistic loyalty is dwindling, and those that exist are not going to turn out to inordinately lengthy party meetings on rainy nights in frowsty Labour committee rooms when they could be at home watching *Coronation Street*.

They have therefore abdicated power to their children and grandchildren, who tend to have been educated at universities and polytechnics, have (or, with unemployment at three million, more likely had, or aspired to) jobs in the public sector, were turned into radicals in the late 1960s and into activists by the frustrations of the 1970s and, unlike their parents, interpret the word "socialism" in terms of Marx rather than Owen and Morris.

They think of themselves as workers, and talk about "working-class consciousness", but this is often mere nostalgia at a psychological level, and at a political level simply a code-word in the language of revolution.

Of course this picture is a gross over-simplification of a very complicated reality. "Upward mobility" in the social sense does not invariably lead to radical activism; there are huge regional variations, with many local parties still dominated by moderates, and others, for that matter, still in the iron grip of the most conservative trade union machines. But the fact remains, as many opinion polls show, that constituency delegates to recent Labour Party conferences have been overwhelmingly in the middle-class social and economic brackets and (as the votes have amply demonstrated) predominantly left-wing in orientation.

Nothing at present seems likely to reverse this trend except a willingness on the part of the present parliamentary leadership and the trade unions to redraw the party rules so as (a) to mobilize anti-left support in the constituencies and (b) to purge the party of all Marxist sub-groups. These are precisely the steps they will not or cannot take.

In the case of the constituencies it is not enough, for instance, merely to reverse the conference decision which imposes reselection on MPs for every general election. The long-term slide to the left would still continue under the influences just described. What is required is a selection procedure which implicates the "sleeping" moderates who never turn up to meetings — in other words, a limited version of an American primary election in which all members of the local party are entitled to vote. There is not the slightest chance that such a reform will be proposed, let alone adopted, because it would undermine the privileged position of the trade unions in the appointment of delegates to selection conferences (and which in effect turns a number of constituencies into rotten boroughs).

Similarly, in the case of the ideological challenge, it is no use proscribing the Militant Tendency (although that would certainly be a step forward). Its members would soon regroup and reappear in the same places, with the same aims and opinions but in a slightly different guise. The real need is to investigate all the existing "parties within the party" (the Rank and File Coordinating Committee, the London Labour Briefing, and all the rest) and declare that they are in contravention of Clause 2 of the party constitution; the NEC should then revive the party's blacklist of proscribed organizations which was fatally abolished as part of Mr Wilson's liberalization package in 1968.

But here again, there is no prospect whatever of this being done. It is too late. There are no longer the votes in the party conference to support it. And in any case Mr Foot has set his face against a witch-hunt, partly for good liberal reasons, but partly to avoid a flaming row between now and the next general election.

This is where the party's dilemma is so clearly exposed. If Mr Foot decides to assert himself and then successfully carries his wishes through with the help of his wafer-thin (and distinctly unreliable) majority on the present NEC, and makes even the most timid and tentative step that actually harms the hard left, all hell will break loose; Mr Benn will have a field day and Labour will not have a prayer at the polls.

If, on the other hand, he keeps mum and lets the left-wing strategy (of intimidating the Parliamentary Labour Party in the short run and transforming its composition in the long) proceed on its inexorable course, then he is damned by another route. First, his support, such as it is, in the Commons would be badly eroded after the next election. More immediately, however, he cannot expect the right wing to stay silent while the left is allowed to go on picking it off. There will be a flaming row that way, as well; and it is rapidly gaining in volume and intensity. Whether it would harm the Labour Party more at the polls than the other sort of row is a moot point. There cannot be much in it, and though it has become fashionable in the last month or so to predict a steady Labour revival from now on, I would not put much money on it.

Reporter Sally Field in Absence of Malice: is this really how the press works?

Has the prying reporter's halo slipped?

The world's press was buoyed up by *The Washington Post's* exposure of Watergate. But lately American journalism has increased scepticism about the press by publishing false stories (in no less than *The Washington Post* and, last week, *The New York Times*). Now, just as Watergate bacame legend through the film *All the President's Men*, the anit-press movement is reinforced by a new film, *Absence of Malice*. Is the tide turning? And is it a fair picture anyway?

In *Absence of Malice*, which opened in London yesterday, Sally Field, playing Megan Carter, a reporter from *The Miami Standard*, is none of these things: above everything else she is a fool, or rather a dupe, who makes a wrong move in almost every frame of the movie. She intends no evil but succeeds, unwittingly and effortlessly, in creating havoc for innocent citizens.

In America the film is reported to be doing "nice business" and the question is asked whether this is because it has tapped a public anger at the incursions, mistakes, over simplifications and vendettas of reporters and their editors, whether the Watergate scandal has come full circle so that the investigative journalist, once a national hero, is now the villain of the piece.

The world premiere of *Absence*, held in Washington, was given as a benefit for a body called the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press, an organization set up to fight anti-press moves by the United States Government. Given the film's anti-press stance, this was curious but the premiere was attended by several hundred of the capital's top journalists and netted the committee more than $50,000. Most of the journalists reported that they had enjoyed the movie, in the words of one of them "as entertainment and as a love story". But they were adamant and unanimous that the standards of journalism in the film are "wretched" and that the Sally Field character makes elementary mistakes that no real journalist ever would.

The film opens just after a prominent Miami union leader has disappeared without trace. The head of the organized crime task force, getting nowhere in his investigation, thinks up a ruse to flush information out of the underworld. Michael Gallagher, played by Paul Newman, is the fall-guy: his father and uncle are known to have been in the Mafia and the police chief thinks Gallagher has friends in the right (ie, wrong) places. So the police chief opens a (bogus) investigation into him.

Megan Carter is deliberately tipped off that the police have someone in their sights regarding the union leader's disappearance and she visits the police chief in his office. All he offers is a snappy "no comment" but then leaves her in his office, on a prearranged excuse, with the file on Gallagher conveniently on view. Like a good (good?) newshound, Carter reads it.

She and her editor are aware that the story has been "leaked" to them but they do not appear to question the motives of the police and, on the basis of the "file" alone, the *Standard* runs a front-page article saying that Gallagher is a suspect in the murder investigation. This is exactly what the police chief wanted.

In Britain, of course, our stricter Libel and Contempt of Court laws would prevent this kind of article, but not in the United States. We learn later in the film that Gallagher is entirely innocent but before Megan Carter and her editors are convinced, she has made more errors, lied to her sources, slept with Gallagher and indirectly caused the suicide of a friend of his, also entirely innocent. There can be no doubt about the film's anti-press line.

Carl Bernstein, half of the *Washington post's* famous duo that broke the Watergate scandal and now a producer correspondent with the American Broadcasting Company enjoyed the film, and, thought it was on the right track in drawing attention to the fact that newspapers too often do not make enough checks. But he thinks that every character in the film would be fired from a real newspaper, and the lawyer disbarred.

Ben Bradlee, editor of *The Washington Post*, agrees with Bernstein. "If you are leaked something, you always examine the motives or the person or persons doing the leaking. I like to think that the leak in *Absence* would not have passed our test. And that

It is certainly the feeling that in the three recent cases of fabricated stories — Janet Cooke's eight-year-old heroin "addict" in *The Washington Post*, which won a Pulitzer Prize, Michael Daly's exclusive in the *New York Daily News* about a gun-toting British soldier in Northern Ireland, and Christopher Jones's trip with the Khmer Rouge published in the *New York Times* — there was in each case enough internal inconsistency for editors to have been made suspicious.

Bob Woodward, the other half of the *Washington Post's* Watergate duo and now one of the paper's editors, does not sense that public hostility to the press is any more widespread now than it was, say, 10 years ago. "The journalism schools are still full to overflowing . . . no, th really bad time was in the ealy seventies just before Wargate when Spiro Agnew was Vice President and went arond talking about the natting nabobs of negativism"

Oters disagree sharply with Voodward and say there is a bcklash against — well, intrusve if not investigative journaism. Bradlee is one such. "America definitely has a peoccupation with the press rht now, as a result of Wategate, I think. I feel this peoccupation here. Everythig we do is under a special microscope. You know ho we used to stu Hamlet inhigh school, scrutinizing itfor five months, trying to work out if his brother-in-w was gay".

What figres there are, would seem to support the motion that newspapers are indeed unde threat. Despite America's lser libel and contempt law, especially in regard to "pblic figures," libel actions gainst newspapers have nowballed in recent years. Besides the much-publicise seven figure sum granted to arol Burnett for a *National Inuirer* article about her, ther have been other even lar awards made against *Pethouse*, the *San Francisco Exminer*, the *San Francisco Chnicle*, the *Daily Oklahoman* and the *Lake Charles (ouisiana) American Press*. A as Klaw says, this is not ue to a change in the law tself but instead to the fact tht juries, which settle the evel of awards, are reflecng the mood of the Aerican people.

The managing edito of the *San Francisco Chronic* says that the sending of theatening letters has proliferted in the last few years, "oftn for very frivolous reasons but which demand expsive replies (only 10 out o 136 libel suits against the edia were successful, accordig to one study). At *Time Inc* hey have about 10 libel its pending at any one time nd the Gannett newspaper cin reports a libel suit aout every 10 days. *Parade* a colour magazine insertedin 136 Sunday newspapers, as recently decided to introdce regular liberal seminars fr staff.

Pace Bob Woodward, the, there does seem to be fair fertile ground for *Absence* *Malice* to take root in. An some papers, like *Time Inc* are fighting it and have, fo instance, begun counter suing individuals and organization who are believed tc have sued them maliciously.

At this point you are no doubt thinking that we are treating *Absence of Malice* like some of the Washington heavies, and, as Bradlee says spending as much time on it as schools devote to *Hamlet*. Let's give the last word to Pollack. "Heck, this isn't a documentary, a documentary would have been different. This is fiction wrapped around a newspaper. And a love story."

Peter Watson

Why Nicosia is so glad to see Papandreou



Cyprus: a brief chronology

1571 Turkish conquest
1878 Turkey cedes Cyprus to Britain
1955-59 Greek Cypriot struggle for "enosis" with Greece
1960 Cyprus becomes independent republic
1963-64 Makarios amends constitution: Turkish Cypriots withdraw into enclaves.
1974 Greek-officered National Guard overthrows Makarios
Turkey intervenes and occupies northern Cyprus
Greek Cypriots flee to south, Turkish Cypriots to north
Makarios returns
1975 Turkish Cypriots proclaim "federated state"
1977 Makarios and Denktaş agree on guidelines for federal solution
Makarios dies
1980-82 Renewed intercommunal talks make very slow progress

When Mr Andreas Papandreou arrives in Cyprus tomorrow he will be the first Greek Prime Minister ever to visit the island. Almost certainly he will be given a welcome from the Greek Cypriot population such as no one has had since Makarios returned from his second exile, in December 1974.

This is not because Greek Cypriots are still hankering after their old dream of *Enosis* with Greece, as Turkish Cypriots are prone to assert. That was already no more than a dream, or a slogan, for most Greek Cypriots even before the coup of 1974 and the nightmare that followed.

No, Greek Cypriots will welcome Papandreou because they believe that under him, Greece is for the first time giving them whole-hearted support in their struggle to end the Turkish occupation of northern Cyprus and to restore the unity and independence of the Cyprus republic. For him, it seems, the Cyprus issue has a much higher priority than for his Conservative predecessors, who were more interested in getting Greece into the EEC and re-integrating her forces with Nato.

But how can Papandreou help the Cypriots in practice? I put that question to Greek Cypriot leaders of various factions during a visit last month. None of them, I found, was under the illusion that northern Cyprus can be "liberated" from the Turks by force, with or without Greek help. Many do consider, however, that it is important to strengthen their defences so that they can resist any Turkish attempt to seize the remainder of the island, at least long enough for the international community to react and impose a ceasefire.

Essentially, what Greek Cypriots are expecting from Papandreou is that he will make enough of a nuisance of himself in Nato to persuade other Nato countries, and particularly the United States, to put pressure on Turkey to alter her policy on Cyprus. In vain does one point out that in the last resort, Turkey is more vital to Nato strategy than Greece. The Cypriot reply is that Nato will not want, or need, to lose either. Turkey, they say, especially under its present military regime, is wholly dependent on the United States, and under sufficient pressure would do as it is told.

Yet independent observers of the conflict, while agreeing that further concessions will be needed on the Turkish side if a solution is to be reached, and that international pressure has a part to play in producing these, fear that Papandreou's advent may actually make a solution less likely by enabling the Greek Cypriots to hide from themselves the fact that greater flexibility is needed on their side too.

The Greek Cypriots indirectly confirm this when they complain that previous Greek governments allowed themselves to be used as an instrument of international pressure for Greek Cypriot concessions, and rejoice that Papandreou seems unlikely to play that role.

It seems, however, that Mr Papandreou, while not concealing his scepticism about the chance of reaching a solution through the intercommunal talks, is being careful to avoid any action which would enable the Turks to claim that he had sabotaged the talks. Last week he unexpectedly summoned President Spyros Kyprianou of Cyprus to Athens for further consultations in advance of his own visit to Cyprus, amid a spate of rumours about a new initiative by one or more European powers. These rumours are apparently at least premature, and the Greek Cypriots are prepared to give the intercommunal talks, chaired by the dynamic UN representative Señor Hugh Gobbi, at any rate until April or May to produce clear progress towards a solution.

> Both sides tend to think that they have already made as many concessions as can reasonably be expected . . .

As in any difficult negotiations, both sides tend to think that they have already made as many concessions as can reasonably be expected of them, and that now it is up to the other party to respond. The Greek Cypriots stand astonished at their own moderation in accepting the principle of a bi-regional federation, and are unimpressed by the Turkish acceptance of Dr Waldheim's "evaluation", put forward last October, which included the suggestion that negotiations on the territorial issue should start "on the basis of a line drawn so that the area under Greek Cypriot jurisdiction was at least 70 per cent". This would mean a Turkish zone substantially smaller than at present, but still much larger than the proportion of Turkish Cypriots in the population.

For the moment, attention is focused on the constitutional rather than the territorial aspect of the dispute. Mr Rauf Denktaş, the Turkish Cypriot leader, insists on what he calls "the full partnership status of the Turkish Cypriots in the formation of the new Government", meaning essentially that Greek Cypriots should not be able to use their position as the majority to impose decisions against Turkish Cypriot wishes.

On the Greek Cypriot side, Mr Kyprianou says: "This equality business is not acceptable" — meaning that while individuals should be equal, he cannot accept the idea of "two separate entities of equal status" since this would mean giving less weight to the vote of the individual Greek Cypriot than to that of his Turkish fellow-citizen.

Nor does Mr Kyprianou accept that the issue is fundamentally one of lack of trust between the two communities, resulting from the bloodshed before as well as during the Turkish invasion. "I don't believe there is a question of trust among the man in the street, among the people", he told me. "If one were to speak of security, he should concern himself with the security of Cyprus in view of the threat from Turkey."

It is very hard to find a Turkish Cypriot, even among those who most fiercely oppose Mr Denktaş and are most eager to solve the intercommunal conflict, who would agree that this is the *only* kind of security to be considered. It is true that the Turkish Cypriots, living in an occupied zone as they do, are not negotiating as completely free agents. But it is also true that they are unlikely to join Greek Cypriots in calling for Turkish withdrawal so long as Greek Cypriots show so little understanding of the reasons why they welcomed the arrival of Turkish forces in 1974.

Edward Mortimer

Who will we see at the turnstile?

If there is a rush for the turnstiles as a result of the forcible elevation of Bruce Page from the editorship of the *New Statesman* it is bound to be a mad one. That is the opinion, at any rate, of Peter Jenkins of *The Guardian*, a much-maligned candidate last time out. "Anyone who would subject himself to the humiliation and indignities of applying for the editorship of the *Statesman* needs to be out of his mind", he told PHS yesterday.

The staff's suspicion that Page's removal is preliminary to an attempt to turn the old Staggers and Natters into an SDP house journal is fervently denied by the Social Democrat board members. Graham C. Greene, the chairman, says he wants to continue "non-aligned, but radical and left." Anthony Sampson says the journal has always been independent of party and reassures the staff he will not be a candidate himself.

Page, whose enemies term him the Pol Pot of British journalism, leaves at Great Turnstile two obvious staff candidates for the succession. Anna Coote, the deputy editor, would carry it by acclamation if it were left to the Bread and Marmite People's Front. Peter Kellner, a pleasant person, would unfortunately fill the pages with graphs and charts, thus depressing circulation even further. They have thought of an SDP-style solution in which they would share the job.

Alan Watkins of *The Observer* will be standing, as candidate of the pro-literacy faction. Politically he would keep the mag out of the hands of the SDP and restore it to Old Labour. He would, while rescuing it from the polytechnic doctrinal tendency, also refertilize the acreage of investigative journalism relieved with pictures of cooling towers which the paper has become.

Other possible starters include Hugh Stephenson and John Torode of *The Guardian*. Non-runners are Joe Rogaly of *The Financial Times* and David Watt of Chatham House. One certainty is that it will be a rough run. This is when Britain's political journalists get to know what political infighting is really like.

Shipwrecked

Who is Margaret Thatcher to rewrite Homer? In her speech to the engineers she spoke of Ulysses resisting the siren voices and bringing the ship safely home to harbour. As Robin Cook, Labour MP for Edinburgh Central, points out in an early day motion he tabled yesterday, there was actually a shipwreck with the loss of all hands on Ulysses's way home, and when he reached Ithaca he could not use the harbour because his castle was occupied by Penelope's hostile suitors.

Over the moon

An early football result: Peru Clairvoyants and Machetemen playing at home, and in the absence of their opponents, beat Cameroun Witchdoctors.

THE TIMES DIARY



Shoppers in Holborn today will see the wool pulled before their eyes at blinding speed. A wool shop is staging a demonstration of high velocity knitting by Gwen Matthewman, who wields the fastest clicking needles known.

Matthewman has been timed at 111 stitches a minute, and in one year knitted 915 jumpers using 11,000 ounces of wool, equivalent to the fleeces of 85 sheep.

She also recently found time to run up four leg-warmers, a 14ft scarf, a hat and a trunk cosy for an elephant.

The Peruvians, armed with machetes, staves and birch rods, met in an otherwise deserted, moonlit field outside Lima to do battle with Camerounian sorcerers who, they claimed, were using black magic to prejudice Peru's chances of winning the World Cup in Spain this summer. The captain of the Peruvian squad, a faith-healer called Isidoro Samaniego Dios, reported: "Some of us fainted, others collapsed from exhaustion, but we finally overcame them."

Boxing clever

London's orchestras are trying to price the ticket touts out of business. The top price for tickets for a Luciano Pavarotti gala performance for the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra at the Albert Hall on April 13 will be £100. That will apply to boxes in the grand tier and the first six rows in the arena which are, as you might say, within spitting distance of the stage.

On the other hand 1,000 seats at £2.50 each are reserved in the gods for students, and, the RPO point out, the top price is less than half the £250 the London Symphony Orchestra is charging for a gala attended by the Prince and Princess of Wales. The pricey tickets are, of course, quickly selling out.

Open secret

We have intelligence of intelligence. The Y Service of wartime days has its first reunion at the House of Commons on Monday. These are the code-breakers and signal interceptors who kept Churchill's war cabinet informed of German and Italian moves, including Hitler's attack on Russia, long before they happened.

Fifty-eight veterans will attend, including Tom Normanton, Conservative MP for Cheadle. The guest of honour at the celebratory lunch will be Brigadier L.A.W. (Laurie) New, deputy director of military intelligence, who will toast the Y Service. The response will come from Brigadier B. A. H. Parritt, present director of the Intelligence Corps.

The old stagers have amazing stories to tell, our PHSpy says. He hopes to do some useful interception on the day, being disappointed not to have an official invitation. He was a "Headache Operator" during the war, feeding HQ with intercepted Axis messages from a station in Malta.

Second win

For the second time Mary Lascelles, former vice-principal and now honorary fellow of Somerville College, is a winner of the Rose Mary Crawshay prize administered by the British Academy.

Lascelles previously won the prize for *Jane Austen and her Art* in 1940. This year she shares it with Annabelle Terhune, the American who edited the letters of Edward Fitzgerald. The prize is for historical or critical work about English literature by women of any nationality, with preference, because of the original endowment, given to work concerning Byron, Shelley or Keats.

Lascelles, though, returned to the winners' lists with *The Storyteller retrieves the past*, published in 1980 and devoted to the historical fiction of Scott, Stevenson and Kipling.

Yates and Co.

Has Lord Montagu of Beaulieu discovered a hitherto unsuspected work of Dornford Yates, the creator of Berry and Co? In *Home James: The Chauffeur in the Golden Age of Motoring*, published earlier this month, Montagu asserts that Yates helped write the memoirs of Edward VII's chauffeur, C. W. Stamper.



Yet Jack Smithers, whose biography of Dornford Yates is published by Hodder and Stoughton on Monday, warns me not to believe a word of it. In 1913, when Stamper's sensationally entitled but otherwise bland *What I know* was published, Cecil William Mercer, who adopted the pen-name Dornford Yates, was "still a no-account, out-of-the-way, underemployed barrister with no more than a spectator's knowledge of cars, and only a couple of short stories published in the *Windsor Magazine*."

Smithers adds that if Mercer had known the Palace, even through the tradesmen's entrance, "he was such a social climber that we should never have heard the last of it."

Lord Montagu unfortunately cannot yet support his assertion, which was based on research by his co-author, Patrick Macnaghten, who died last August. But yesterday he commented: "It is not the sort of thing we could possibly make up".

Goodbye sailor

The sale of HMS Invincible to Australia will bereave Durham city, the Hall School in Swiss Cottage, the Falkland Islands Association, sea cadets in Chorley and the Royal Family. The carrier had built up a formidable list of affiliations. The complete list also includes the British Life Insurance Association, the Light Infantry, Durham School CCF and the Sector Operations Centre, RAF Buchan. The ship is also, of course, the one to which Prince Andrew is attached as a helicopter pilot.

Diary Quiz

Our weekly news quiz:

1 Where did workers take up the burden?

2 Who made a long-term miscalculation?

3 Who provides an escape route for a prickly problem?

4 Who poured oil on our troubled waters?

Answers here on Monday.

PHS

THE TIMES
P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

FOOD IS POWER

nce again the Soviet Union as turned to the West to make good its economic failures. For the third year in a row the Russian harvest has been so bad that the country is being forced to use western supplies to make up the difference. We ought not let them do so unless they are willing to show greater military restraint around the world.

Reports from the Soviet Union, such as the one carried in *The Times* yesterday suggest that this year's crop in Russia has been even worse than in previous years. The Russians are expected to need about 42 million tonnes of grain of all kinds even to feed their people at the abysmally low standard to which they have become accustomed.

Last year's harvest in the West was a good one so we have not yet seen sharp upsurge in prices of the kind which happened in the early 1970s. But the stocks on which we should have to rely if bad weather produces a crop failure here are being, quite literally, eaten up by Kremlin-imposed inefficiency of Soviet farming. What do we get out of this?

For farmers in the American heartland and for the grain exporting companies the attractions are obvious. The importance of their views has prevented President Reagan feeling that he can go back on the pledge he made during the 1980 election campaign not to use a grain embargo of the kind which President Carter imposed.

One of the arguments used then against the embargo was that it was sidestepped by other countries, who just sold the grain to the Soviet Union in place of the American suppliers. That argument is much weaker in the face of a Soviet crisis of such greater proportions. The United States has such a stranglehold on the world grain market that the Soviets would not be able to find alternative sources of supply. Nor, if it were effectively policed, could an embargo be evaded on the necessary scale for the Soviets to get round it. The impracticality argument, always used as the first line of defence by those whose hearts are not in an issue, does not hold water.

Nor does the idea that the Americans are just sticking to contracts which they must honour. The nature of embargoes imposed by governments for political reasons is that they interfere with normal trade. If there is no trade to interfere with, there is no point in the embargo.

There have been two major issues of contention between the west and the Soviet Union over the past two years. They are the Russian invasion of Afghanistan and Soviet intervention in Poland. The western response to both has been feeble and has missed the one sanction that could have had an effect.

It has been fashionable in the past to say that the Soviet Union is always prepared, given the choice, to sacrifice goods from the west if it asked to pay a political price. The record does not show this. If used properly, the trade carrot-and-stick can work with the Russians. It certainly would have its greatest effect if based on the food weapon, for Soviet society has changed enough for the threat of severe food shortages to make even the Kremlin pause.

Most of the grain needed for this year has probably already been bought by the Russians. Their hectic activity in the world's gold and oil markets is a sure sign they have been spending heavily.

Yet one thing we can be sure of is that they will be back again. Central direction and good farming do not go together. The Soviet Union cannot persist with the delusion that they have bad luck with their harvests. It is chronic inefficiency in its agricultural sector from which they suffer, and that is not bad luck but bad management, and ruthless overspending on defence rather than farming.

We ought not to be protecting the Soviet leaders from the consequences of their unwillingness to change from a warfare state to an agrarian one. The tumult on the oil market in the 1970's awakened us to the fact that raw materials are vital strategic weapons. No raw material is as vital as food and those western countries which have been able so easily to feed themselves have been to ready to forget that fact.

Constant sales of grain to the Russians are bad for us, because they keep prices here high they are bad for the rest of the world, because countries which have real problems feeding themselves suffer from Russia's self-inflicted socialist wounds; and bad for Russia because they postpone change. The Soviet Union knows perfectly well that its dependence on our food production is a major and constant source of weakness. We should show them that we know that too.

PARENTS HAVE DUTIES TOO

It is piqant that the judgment of the European Court of Human Rights on the use of the cane or tawse in schools should come in the week that a Toxteth school has been closed because of the violence of nine and 10 year olds. It is the teachers, not the pupils, who have been intimidated in Toxteth — and they are too frequently sink schools in other urban areas. It would be natural therefore to feel some irritation with those who feel that any vestige of discipline is somehow demeaning to the individual, and some sympathy with teachers organizations who have expressed dismay at the difficulties and occusions it may cause. It has to be emphasized, therefore, that the European Court did not find caning to be torture or inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. It specifically refused to do it. And it would be quite out of proportion to regard the judgment as representing some special indictment of this country as a haven for child beating. Parts of Germany and Switzerland, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and most of the United States still practise it.

The judgment was more about the rights of parents than it was about corporal punishment and here the reasoning of the Court is persuasive in the light of the European Treaty on Human Rights. Article 2 says that no one should be denied the right of education and that when the State assumes the teaching burden, it must respect the right of parents to ensure such education and teaching is in conformity with their own religious and philosophical convictions". Parents who are Catholics are entitled to have their children taught in conformity with their beliefs and parents who are against corporal punishment for their children are entitled to have that conviction respected. It is not necessary for the parents to prove if they could, as anti-caning campaigners claim, that it produces fear and resentment which destroy the chance of establishing a relationship of trust and respect and thereby inhibits or ruins the possibility of learning. A great many well-educated parents today emerged from the odd caning or strapping without ill effect. But a conviction against corporal punishment does relate to a weighty and substantial aspect of human life and behaviour, namely the integrity of the person, as the Court puts it, and does denote a view which has obtained a level of cogency, seriousness and cohesion, so that it deserves to be regarded with respect as a philosophical conviction, It is more than a mere view on teaching methods or discipline.

The decision, which must be respected for its cogency in law and by reason of our respect for the treaty, nonetheless poses problems. The British Government, which is affected by the ruling just as are all European governments, has argued that it preferred to phase out the use of caning as a consensus developed. That is still a respectable approach. The Lord Advocate Lord Mackay was surely exaggerating, as are the anti-caning campaigners, in arguing that a decision in favour of the two mothers could mean segregating schools into those which administer corporal punishment and those which did not. The concept of beating and non-beating schools is ludicrous. The campaigners argue, therefore, that the Government should simply outlaw caning in schools altogether on the grounds that it would be unfair to discriminate between parents whose children had opted for caning and parents whose children were opposed. But this argument, too, is not conclusive; it is awkward certainly, but the problem facing the educational authorities is no different from coping with the different religious requirements in schools. (One of the practical difficulties at classroom level is that many teachers find their most troublesome pupils are those whose parents are most insistent that nobody should lay a hand on Johnny, though they may themselves, in anger, do just that. There is only one answer for this which is that the unruly child should be suspended from school or receive restricted privileges so that the parents has to cope with the problem of indiscipline which must largely have originated within the home.) And children must not be allowed back into school without the parents attending and being reminded of their responsibilities. The teachers' organizations have a case here in arguing that there is a role for counsellors to come between the embattled teacher and the embittered parent.

In accepting that the judgment is sound, one must regret that it might reinforce the secular fashion which denies too often that the individual must not only be responsible for his actions but must accept the penalties of actions that are anti-social or self-indulgent. It is a pity that the European Court could not accompany the right of a parent to protect their children from corporal punishment with a corresponding duty to bring up children in a disciplined enough way to make it more likely that they respect authority at school.

Legal precedence

From Mrs J. K. Cundy

Sir, The Reverend John Pollock (February 18) refers to the close association of both Lord Denning and the Pollock family with the Lawyers' Christian Fellowship (formerly the Lawyers' Prayer Union).

While interest and dispute may continue over legal longevity it is interesting to note that this fellowship can claim an undisputed 130 years of active existence. Our records contain the following brief but intriguing extracts from the diary of John MacGregor who was one of the founding members:

1851, Jan 1. Called to the Bar, Temple.
July 7. My first brief as a barrister.
1852. Enlistd in Temple Volunteers.
Feb 9. Stared Lawyers' Prayer Union.

Yours faithfully,
JOSEPHINE CUNDY, Secretary,
The Lawyers' Christian Fellowship
70 Sheen Lane,
East Sheen SW14.
February 2.

Health data protection

From Mr Michael Rigby

Sir, Your otherwise very commendable article on computer applications in the Health Service in your recent supplement on information technology (January 14) failed to identify the limitation to developments caused by the continuing lack of British legislation on data protection. This is of particular concern for computer applications in community health services.

Unfortunately, in highlighting the pre-school child health project as an example of confidentiality problems, your feature contained misinformation. The Child Health Computing Committee acceded to a request from the British Medical Association that the computer programs completed in mid-1981 should be scrutinized by independent experts, and meanwhile preparations for trials were suspended. Such analysis showed that the programs were secure within pre-existing proposals for their use, without change. The British Medical Association has now approved implementation of trials, which should commence in mid-1982.

However, lack of statutory confidentiality safeguards remains a major problem. Marcel Berlins, elsewhere in your supplement, emphasized the need for legislation to implement the main recommendations of the Lindop report and to bring Britain into line with the rest of Western Europe. In this context the particular sanctity of medical information needs recognition. It is also surprising that there is no overall National Health Service formal code of practice relating to confidentiality, though there is an honoured tradition of respecting confidential information.

In view of Government support for Information Technology Year it is to be hoped that a suitable data-protection Act will be passed by Parliament during the current session. At the same time, the forthcoming restructuring of the NHS provides opportunity for health authorities to introduce confidentiality and security protocols, recognized in employment contracts, concerning both manual and computer records.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL RIGBY,
Vice-Chairman,
Child Health Computing Committee,
Cheshire Area Health Authority,
PO Box 41,
Lightfoot Street,
Chester.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Grylls plan for industry loans

From the Secretary-General of the Committee of London Clearing Bankers

Sir, In his report on Michael Grylls's scheme for reducing industry's borrowing costs (February 19), your reporter, George Brock, correctly says that the banks are reserving their position until they know a great deal more about how the scheme would work. In view of the wider issues raised in the report, may I amplify this point a little?

The Grylls scheme appears designed to reduce companies' annual debt repayments in two distinct ways. One is by allowing interest to be paid on a net-of-tax basis. The other is by extending the term of years for which banks lend. The arguments involved are quite separate.

On the former point, I would only warn against excessive optimism about the amount of new investment that would follow from the ability to pay interest net, in view of all the other factors currently holding industry back.

My main concern, however, is with the suggestion that companies are inhibited from investing, not just by the tax position, but also by the need to repay their bank debt too swiftly. The wildly misleading graph accompanying the report shows "typical repayment terms" of three years and "repayment under the Grylls plan" of seven years. The fact that companies can already borrow from their banks for seven, 10 or even 20 years if they so wish is totally overlooked.

The report also gives further credence to the *claim* that German and Japanese companies are able to borrow for much longer periods than British ones. There is absolutely no justification for this claim. Indeed, Japanese bank lending actually has a much greater short-term component than British bank lending. Of course, Japanese banks often allow their short-term loans to be rolled over, but so do British banks.

If the Government decides that the present tax arrangements are inhibiting industrial investment, then by all means let them be changed. But that decision should be taken on its own merits, and not as the by-product of uninformed criticisms of bank lending practices.

Yours faithfully,
LESLIE PRIESTLEY,
The Committee of London Clearing Bankers,
10 Lombard Street, EC3.
February 25.

Immigrant 'confessions'

From Mr Ian Martin

Sir, You report (February 16) that members of the Home Affairs Race Relations and Immigration subcommittee were told during their recent visit to Bangladesh of "2,600 cases of fraud last year".

It is not clear from your report that these are the figures for "tax confessions" ie, the numbers of wives and children falsely declared to the Inland Revenue for the purpose of claiming tax allowances. The subcommittee appears not to have been told how many of these alleged confessions related to people for whom entry had been sought, although they were not entitled to be admitted.

In giving evidence to the subcommittee we expressed the hope that the MPs would obtain this further information. We are certain that very many of the "tax confessions" relate to falsely declared wives and children for whom no attempt is made to obtain entry, and it would therefore be quite wrong if your readers misunderstood the figures cited to be an estimate of immigration fraud rather than tax fraud.

Three other points should be made. First, where false tax claims were made, it was usually 15 to 20 years ago, by men who came to the United Kingdom from a country where the concept of personal income tax was unknown to them and whose illiteracy made them wholly dependent on the advice of others.

Second, child tax allowances of course no longer exist and some of those who made false claims have never earned enough to have benefited from the fraud.

Third, since the entry clearance officers sometimes say that they will admit younger children if older children are admitted to be "bogus", we believe that some parents in their desperation "confess" genuine children to be non-existent.

Yours faithfully,
IAN MARTIN,
General Secretary,
Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants,
44 Theobalds Road, WC1.
February 18.

Specialized taste

From Mr Nicholas Holgate

Sir, May I congratulate you on your "Great European Eaters"? Too few newspaper articles make me grit my teeth and then burst out laughing, but the laboured fastidiousness of your gourmets does just that. From M Courtine's comment (February 13) that English cooking "exists" to Herr von Paczensky's complaint (February 20) that fish dishes are spoilt by "that certain fishy taste", we have a glorious caricature of critical reviewing.

I also liked the phrase "a discovery which compels me to actually recommend it". The combination of esoteric delving and split infinitive was most refreshing.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS HOLGATE,
Trinity College,
Cambridge,
February 20.

TV broadcasting by satellite

From the Chairman of the British Broadcasting Corporation

Sir, Television by satellite presents broadcasters with immense opportunities for services to the public. I agree with Lord Aylestone (February 24) that the potential for British industry is very great. If Britain does not enter the field in the very near future, that potential is never likely to be realised.

Up to now, I believe we and the IBA have disagreed about the urgency of our involvement. The BBC has, in the last few years, consistently stated that television broadcasting by satellite was a development of great potential with which we wished to be associated. It is surely not surprising that the BBC should seek to be in the fore-front in developing new services to the public. We are set up by charter to provide a public service of broadcasting throughout the nation. As methods of broadcasting change it is only proper that we should wish to be involved in extending that public service through new methods of distribution.

The methods of financing such an involvement and the programmes which might be offered are still very much open to discussion. Subscription is, indeed, a new form of financing in this country, but it is well tried elsewhere and we see it as providing a sensible basis for the funding of one BBC satellite channel. It is a method which is in line with our policy of seeking to enhance the licence income upon which we rely for the bulk of our services.

We believe we could provide a service for two channels, one of which would not be financed by subscription (and would be of far wider scope than "repeats"). We have said as much to the Home Office. Financing, complex though it may be, will, of course, be worked out against what Lord Aylestone properly refers to as our "over-riding responsibility to the licence payer", but that responsibility cannot neglect the exciting opportunities presented by new and rapidly changing developments.

I should add that the BBC has never sought a monopoly in this field. If the companies and the IBA seek involvement, they will no doubt say so to the Home Office; and in turn their plans and proposals will become part of the public debate which has already been going on for some time. But we shall miss golden opportunities for both industry and broadcasting if action is deferred to allow interminable discussion.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE HOWARD,
Chairman, BBC,
Broadcasting House, W1.
February 24.

From Mr Norman Collins

Sir, Lord Aylestone, chairman of the ITA from 1967-75 and an elder statesman of broadcasting, as well as of Westminster, politics is to be thanked for his most timely and important letter of February 24. It is indeed a matter of national concern that the use of the two forthcoming satellite broadcast channels should be allocated in the best interests of the public.

The BBC, with its many other unavoidable commitments and obligations, certainly cannot be regarded as a suitable candidate for the operation of *both* these channels. Even a channel merely of "repeats" which the BBC is advocating is still bound to prove costly and it should be remembered that it is a matter only of weeks since the corporation was expressing its dismay at a new licence fee of £46 as against the sum of £50 for which it was so urgently asking.

In face of this, the BBC's proposal that it should operate also a subscription television service on a parallel satellite channel is therefore doubly disturbing. Such a venture would not only require both considerable capital outlay and annual running costs but would introduce a new and highly speculative element into the delicate system of BBC financing.

It is profoundly to be hoped that the full parliamentary debates for which Lord Aylestone is asking should take place before any Government decisions are made.

Yours faithfully,
NORMAN COLLINS,
Mulberry House,
Church Row, NW3,
February 25.

Britain's nuclear system

From Air Vice-Marshal S. W. B. Menaul

Sir, In his article in today's issue (February 19) Mr David Watt rightly points out that the question, what kind of nuclear force does Britain need as a replacement for the four Polaris submarines in the 1990s, appears to have divided those responsible for this important decision.

Trident II (D5) will undoubtedly be a very advanced system when it becomes available at the end of this decade, but in my view prohibitively expensive for Britain. We have become mesmerized by the idea that only submarine-launched ballistic missiles, whatever the cost, are an acceptable replacement for our small Polaris force, which is our current contribution to Nato nuclear forces.

Alternatives to Trident include air-launched cruise missiles, submarine, surface ship and ground-launched cruise missiles, air-to-ground stand-off missiles and mobile ground-launched ballistic missiles. Britain is not a superpower and does not need superpower nuclear weapons. We are part of Europe and a member of the Nato alliance.

Most of our armed forces are committed to the European theatre, so we must decide what nuclear weapons would be most appropriate as a continuing contribution to Nato nuclear forces in the 1990s and beyond. There should be no question of Britain renouncing unilaterally her ability to maintain a nuclear capability.

We must, however, accept the harsh reality that in the unlikely event of the United States abrogating her commitments to Europe we could not on our own deter a Soviet attack on Europe, including these islands, with nuclear/conventional/chemical weapons. If the United States believes that it needs more than 10,000 warheads, deliverable by three different systems, to deter the Soviet Union from attacks on Europe or the United States in the 1990s and beyond, by what logic do we conclude that we could deter similar attacks with one Trident submarine (128 warheads) when the consequences of firing just one missile would be suicidal if deterrence should fail?

What Britain needs is a theatre nuclear force capable of attacking military targets in the Soviet Union under a realistic strategy, but with the ability to attack cities and industrial complexes if the situation so demanded.

I have recently been discussing this problem with experts in the United States who expressed surprise that Britain should be considering the Trident system at all. In the course of examining alternatives, on the assumption that Britain adopted a realistic nuclear strategy, the most suitable system to replace Polaris would be a modified version of Pershing 2, with three MIRV warheads and an extended range to include Moscow. In effect an equivalent of the Soviet SS-20, but with superior performance.

The Pershing 2 is a mobile ballistic missile system with an accuracy greater than any other ballistic missile yet produced. The cost for, say, 50 missiles (150 warheads) has been estimated at about £800m and would be available by 1988. Such a system would have both a strategic and theatre nuclear capability and would be more appropriate to Britain's needs as a contribution to Nato nuclear forces in the 1990s and beyond, and at a price we can afford.

Yours faithfully,
STEWART MENAUL,
The Lodge,
Frensham Vale,
Lower Bourne,
Farnham, Surrey.
February 19.

Opting out of the NHS

From the Chairman of the Independent Hospital Group, Limited

Sir, Your first leader (February 5) included certain generalisations worthy of more detailed comment.

Two of the many functions performed by the Independent Hospital Group are, first, to act as watchdog over what might otherwise deteriorate into an uncontrolled development of private hospitals and, at all times, to preserve a working partnership between the NHS and the independent sector.

With over 10,000 nurses unemployed it is to be hoped that growth in the number of private hospitals will play a part in generating new job opportunities.

To date I have seen little evidence to support the allegation that private hospitals bribe or poach staff from the NHS; the majority of such hospitals are operated by organisations — such as Nuffield Nursing Homes Trust with its 32 acute units — whose policy it is to employ nursing staff on conditions identical to those detailed by the Whitley Council scales.

Your leader ignored the fact that several training facilities already exist in the private sector. For example, NNHT has already this year established a new Joint Board of Clinical Nursing Studies course for operating-theatre nurses. This course is open to suitable candidates from both the NHS and independent organisations.

Encouraged by the present Government the private sector is constantly examining additional ways in which it can help with the further education of nurses.

Finally, on the subject of training, there is often more emotion than logic in any discussion; it is necessary to remember the many people in this country (other than nurses) who are trained at the state's expense.

Is it seriously being said that anyone who has been trained by the state must only work for the state?

Yours faithfully,
OLIVER ROWELL, Chairman,
The Independent Hospital Group Limited,
Rowell House,
15-17 Essex Street, WC2.
February 8.

Mite of comfort

From Mrs C. E. Johnston

Sir, Through the window envelope of a letter received today I saw "Refund of overpaid rates" and I toyed briefly with the idea of, say, Monte Carlo on the proceeds — very briefly, for the sum concerned turned out to be £0.01. But perhaps it was churlish of me not to welcome the news that I may either offset it against next year's rates, or (on completion of an application form and payment of at least 12½p postage, of course) may even have the 1p refunded in full.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTINE E. JOHNSTON,
18 Titchwell Road,
Wandsworth Common, SW18.
February 20.

Meeting objections to Oxford

From the Principal of Westfield College

Sir, Dr Harry Judge is uncharacteristically unoriginal in his analysis (February 24) of what he calls the "new Oxford snobbery": for he says little which was not being said, in its essence, 20 years ago.

May I therefore contribute a thought which, I dare to say, was not in people's minds in, say, the late 1950s but which I believe is now a potent factor in our evolving society and (in particular) in the field of higher education?

Within these two decades the attitudes of young people, and particularly of those who move from school into higher education, have changed to become extraordinarily egalitarian (for the want of a better word). There seems to me to be a positive force nowadays towards a common culture, even towards a common manner of speech and mode of dress. "Class" in the sense understood in my own adolescence is consciously eschewed and circumvented.

It follows that the average sixth-former of the 1980s may not be as interested as we might otherwise expect in an environment which appears (rightly or wrongly) to be outstandingly privileged.

On the whole I regret this, even if I have to accept it. I believe that the excellence for which the university world should strive lies as much in the beauty of its architecture, in the layout of its gardens, in the quality of its living conditions, and in the intimacy between staff and students as in pure academic achievement; and if Oxford, or indeed any other place, suffers from trying to be excellent in the large, the more's the pity.

Yours faithfully,
BRYAN THWAITES,
Westfield College (University of London),
Kidderpore Avenue, NW3.
February 24.

Criminal statistics

From Dr Michael Levi

Sir, The Chief Constable of Kent and your readers should be aware of false statistical gods. Since the *number* of cases of thefts from the person is twice that of robbery in 1980 (report, February 16) it follows that the same numerical increase for thefts from the person and for robbery will produce double the percentage increase for the latter than for the former. Consequently, it seems likely that there has been no change whatever in this type of violence in Avon and Somerset.

Unfortunately, the same cannot be said for the other areas, where both robbery and theft from the person increased. This example does indicate that it is essential to use numerical as well as percentage changes in criminal statistics: a point that should be borne in mind by those who fail to observe that indecent asssaults upon females have declined by more than the rise in the number of rapes.

Yours sincerely,
MICHAEL LEVI,
Lecturer in criminology,
University College, Cardiff,
PO Box 78,
Cardiff.
February 17.

Enduring Latin

From Mr Kenneth Wellesley

Sir, I do not hold it against the author of "*Finis Coronat Opus*" (February 13) that, while paying fit tribute to the Oxford Latin Dictionary now at the point of completion and prophesying that it will be the last of such lexica, he does not make a slight bow in the direction of an even grander enterprise.

If he travels to Munich and passes through the noble entrance hall of the Residenz, he will discover on an upper floor the elegant and practical headquarters of the international *Thesaurus Linguae Latinae*, a work far more comprehensive than the modest and excellent *Oxford Latin Dictionary*, though written in the language of eternity. But the great work is only half completed. In hundreds of boot boxes he will find many thousands of fiches awaiting the composition of articles covering the later letters of the alphabet.

No first-class Latin scholar could do himself, herself or international scholarship a greater service than by spending two years in the Residenz as a lexicographer; and if youth or age opportunity schemes, academic redundancy payments, learned academies or enlightened benefactors (they still exist) were instrumental in supporting such a scholar in decent poverty, this would be a patronage far superior to Lord Chesterfield's.

Yours sincerely,
KENNETH WELLESLEY,
125 Trinity Road,
Edinburgh.
February 20.

Sea of troubles

From Mr Crispian Cartwright

Sir, To commend her inflexibility the Prime Minister likens herself to Ulysses (report, February 24). This may be jolly for her, but the comparison is ominous for the rest of us. For while it is indeed true, as Mrs Thatcher told the Engineering Employers' Federation, that the wily mariner "came safely home to harbour," every schoolboy knows that his entire fleet and all his men were lost on the voyage.

Yours faithfully,
CRISPIAN CARTWRIGHT,
5 Pump Court,
Temple, EC4.
February 24.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 25: The Queen this morning attended the opening of the Trial of the Pyx at Goldsmiths' Hall and was received upon arrival by the Right Hon the Lord Mayor (Sir Christopher Leaver) and the Prime Warden of the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths (the Lord Astor of Hever).

After witnessing the opening of the Trial by The Queen's Remembrancer (Mr J. Ritchie), Her Majesty viewed a demonstration of weighing, measuring and assaying, met those concerned with the Trial, and honoured the Prime Warden with her presence at luncheon.

The Hon Mary Morrison, Mr Robert Fellowes and Squadron Leader Adam Wise were in attendance.

Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester will visit the Greater Manchester Police Training School, Sedgley Park, Prestwich, and the East Lancashire Home for Disabled Ex-Servicemen at Broughton House, Salford, on March 25.

Prince and Princess Michael of Kent will attend a gala performance of *The Pirates of Penzance* on May 18, 1982 at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, in aid of KIDS.

A memorial service for Colonel Sir Douglas Glover will be held at St Margaret's, Westminster, at noon today.

A memorial meeting for Miss M. M. Davidson will be held at the University Church of St Mary the Virgin, Oxford, today at 3.

A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Group Captain Andrew Willan will take place at 2.15 pm on Monday, March 22, in Salisbury Cathedral.

Luncheon

HM Government

Lord Trefgarne, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host yesterday at a luncheon given at 1 Carlton Gardens in honour of Professor Hans-Joachim Boehme, Minister for Higher and Technical Education, German Democratic Republic.

Reception

University of Chicago Alumni Association

Professor Sir Peter Swinnerton-Dyer, FRS, was the guest of honour at a reception given by the University of Chicago Alumni Association yesterday evening at London House. The guests were received by Sir Robert Shone, president.

Dinners

Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society
Mr Christopher Tugendhat, Vice-President of the Commission of the European Communities, was the guest of honour at a dinner given by the Manchester Literary And Philosophical Society at Manchester University last night. Mr D. G. Wilson, president of the society, was in the chair and among the other guests was the chairman of the Greater Manchester County Council.

Apothecaries' Society
The deputy Master of the Society of Apothecaries of London, Mr Guy Blackburn, assisted by the Senior Warden, Dr T. D. Whittet, and the Junior Warden, Sir Peter Tizard, entertained members of the livery and their guests at dinner at Apothecaries' Hall yesterday. Those present included:
Professor Sir Idris Foster, Dr D B B Whittet, Lord Richardson, Dr Elston Grey-Turner, Sir Ross Stainton, Mr Ian Jackson, Dr J F Fisher, Dr R Barnard, Colonel F G Neild, Mr B J Simpson, Dr M P W Godfrey, Professor Iain Macintyre, Dr K W Nicholls Palmer, Sir Maurice Dorman, Sir Reginald Murley, Mr Anthony J. Murley and Professor J R Garrett.

Needlemakers' Company
The Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress, accompanied by the Sheriffs, were the guests of honour at the annual livery dinner of the Needlemakers' Company held yesterday at the Mansion House. The Master and Mrs J. E. C. Bailey and the Wardens and their ladies received the Guests. The speakers were the Lord Mayor, the Master, Sir Ieuan Maddock, Sir Martin Wilkinson and Mr J. A. Miller.

Service dinners

Lieutenants' Greenwich Course
Admiral Sir Henry Leach, First Sea Lord, and Admiral Sir James Eberle, Commander-in-Chief Naval Home Command, were the guests of honour at a mess dinner held yesterday at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich to commemorate the twentyfirst anniversary of the Lieutenants' Greenwich Course.

HQ RAF Support Command
Air Marshal Sir Michael Beavis, AOC-IN-C RAF Support Command, and members of Brampton Park officers' mess, RAF Brampton, held a dinner yesterday. The guests included The High Sheriff of Cambridgeshire, Mr W. Correlli Barnet, Air Commodore D. M. Scrimgeour and Colonel James M. Rhodes, Jnr, USAF. Group Captain R. Langstaff presided.

Forthcoming marriages

Sir Ian Collett, Bt, and Miss P. J. Hawkins
The engagement is announced between Ian, only son of the late David Seymour Collett and Mrs James Miskin, and stepson of His Honour Judge James Miskin, QC, and Philippa, only daughter of Mr and Mrs James R. I. Hawkins, of Preston St Mary, Suffolk.

Mr P. Herbert and Miss N. Furnival Jones
The engagement is announced between Philip, son of Mr and Mrs Victor Herbert, of Court Cottage, Chipping Warden, Banbury, Oxfordshire, and Nikki, daughter of Sir Martin and Lady Furnival Jones, of The Little House, Oakley, Bedford.

Mr J. A. B. Buchan and Miss F. J. Norris
The engagement is announced between Bruce, eldest son of Mr and Mrs J. W. R. Buchan, of Adel, Leeds, and Felicity, the youngest daughter of Mrs U. Norris, of Brechin, Angus.

Mr E. V. Cohen and Miss R. J. Hyman
The engagement is announced between Elliot Victor, son of Mrs Renee Cohen and the late Mr Leslie Cohen, of Cheadle, Cheshire, and Roselyn Joy, daughter of Mr and Mrs Louie Hyman, of Prestwich, Manchester.

Mr M. S. Dobbs and Miss L. A. Kaplan
The engagement is announced between Michael Sean, eldest son of Mr and Mrs J. A. Dobbs, of Charlton Musgrove, Somerset, and Lisa Anne, youngest daugher of Mr and Mrs B. H. Kaplan, of Jacksonville, Florida, United States.

Mr N. F. Gordon and Miss R. J. M. Caro
The engagement is announced between Nigel, son of Mr and Mrs W. E. J. Gordon, of Marlborough, Wiltshire, and Joanna, daughter of Professor and Mrs C. G. Caro of Putney.

Mr R. L. Hickson and Miss C. M. H. Stibe
The engagement is announced between Robin Lister, son of Commander and Mrs L. T. Hickson, of Horsington, Somerset, and Catharina Magdalene Helen, daughter of Dr and Mrs Stibe, of Cambridge.

Major R. J. Jackson and Mrs P. A. Wright
The engagement is announced between Robert J. Jackson, The Royal Anglian Regiment, and Patricia A. Wright, of Ashill, Norfolk.

Mr J. M. N. Newall and Miss S. P. M. Fowle
The engagement is announced between Mark, fourth son of Mr and Mrs Stephen Newall, of Rowaleyn, Rhu, Dunbartonshire, and Sharon, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard Fowle, of Chanticleer, Guildford, Surrey.

Mr D. N. Odling and Miss M. J. S. Harvey
The engagement is announced between David, only son of the late Mr G. C. Odling and of Mrs J. L. Odling, of Ash, Somerset, and Margaret, younger daughter of the late Colonel J. S. Harvey and of Mrs N. M. Harvey, of Thornham, Hunstanton, Norfolk.

Mr D. A. Roper and Miss S. J. Prior
The engagement is announced between David, eldest son of Mr and Mrs T. A. Roper, of Montreal, Canada, and Sarah-Jane, daughter of the Rt Hon James and Mrs Prior, of Brampton Old Hall, Beccles, Suffolk.

Mr I. F. Wright and Miss A. C. M. Sandes
The engagement is announced between Ian FitzGibbon, son of Mr J. F. Wright, of Poole, Dorset, and Mrs A. M. Gaskell, of Winsford, Somerset, and Alison Catherine Mary, younger daughter of Colonel and Mrs A. H. W. Sandes, of Farnham, Surrey.

Marriages

Mr C. C. Hardwick III and Miss K. C. Hanson
A service of blessing was held on Thursday at Chelsea Old Church, after the marriage of Mr C. Cheever Hardwick III and Miss Karyn Christy Hanson. The Rev C. E. Leighton Thomson officiated.
A reception was held at Claridge's hotel.

Mr R. D. Heron and Miss A. M. R. Griffith-Jones
The marriage took place on Saturday, February 20, at Chelsea Old Church, of Mr Russell Heron, son of Mr and Mrs A. Heron, and Miss Anne Griffith-Jones, elder daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs L. R. Griffith-Jones. The Rev C. E. Leighton Thomson officiated.
A reception was held at the Basil Street Hotel.

Mr R. C. B. Letts and Miss D. F. Wickremasinghe
The marriage took place on Saturday, February 20, at Christchurch, Wanstead, between Mr Robert Letts, eldest son of Mr and Mrs J. C. B. Letts, and Miss Deepthi Wickremasinghe, only daughter of the late Dr Frank Wickremasinghe and Mrs Wickremasinghe.

Memorial service

Mr R. H. Maingot
A memorial service for Mr Rodney Honor Maingot was held yesterday at the Priory Church of St Bartholomew the Great. Father Christopher Smith officiated and the Rev Arthur Brown was robed. Mr Roger Maingot read the lesson and Mr Henry Thompson gave an address. Among those present were:
Mrs Maingot (widow), Mr and Mrs William Norris (stepson-in-law and stepdaughter), Mr and Mrs Christian Maingot, Mrs Roger Maingot, Mr and Mrs William Maingot, Mrs Joy Lucie-Smith, Mrs Rosemary Maingot-Hart, Miss Lesley Maingot-Hart, Mr and Mrs William Norris.
The High Commissioner for Trinidad and Tobago, Lord Smith (Royal College of Surgeons of England) and Lady Smith, the Hon Mrs Alan Gordon-Walker, General Sir Charles Harington, Sir Graham Rowlandson, Dame Frances Gvist, Sir Ralph Southward, Lady Watson-Jones, Lady Dods, Lady (Daniel) Davies, Mrs Henry Thompson, Professor E C Amoroso, Mr and Mrs A W Badenoch, Mr and Mrs Norman Tanner, Mr Ronald Raven, Mr G Duncan, Professor L P Le Quesne, Dr P E Thompson Hancock, Mr Peter Laing, Mrs R F K Belchem, Mr T G I James, Mr Robert Percival, Dr and Mrs David Thompson, Dr T O W Myrddin-Evans, Mr Sol Cohen, Mr M O Jenner (house governor, London Clinic) with Miss L Henderson (matron) and Miss Kathleen Robinson (Royal Free Hospital Medical School Old Students Association).

Defenders' Memorial

A memorial stone will be unveiled in the cloisters of Westminster Abbey at 4.00 pm on Thursday, March 25, 1982, in memory of all those who, in the face of violence, have given their lives in the service of the Crown to defend freedom, justice and peace since 1945. Those wishing to attend are invited to apply for tickets to: The Deputy Registrar, the Chapter Office, 20 Dean's Yard, Westminster Abbey, London SW1P 3PA, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope, by Friday, March 12.

Church news

Resignations and retirements
The Rev E N Bath, Vicar of Charing Heath with Egerton and Parish Priest of Pluckley, diocese of Canterbury, to retire on March 31.
The Rev D C S Bowler, Vicar of Lydbrook, diocese of Gloucester, to resign on March 31.
The Rev W T Cowlan, Curate of Kenton with Mamhead and Powderham, diocese of Exeter, to resign on April 11.
The Rev F H B Eldridge, Rector of Walgrave with Hannington and Wold, diocese of Peterborough, to resign on June 30.
The Rev G P Gibbon, Vicar of Walthamstow, St Gabriel, diocese of Chelmsford, to retire on April 18.
The Rev K F Griffon, Rector of West Kingsdown, diocese of Rochester, resigned on February 15.
The Ven J Maples, Archdeacon of Swindon, diocese of Bristol, to retire on July 31.
The Rev Preb T R Owen, Prebendary of Exeter Cathedral, diocese of Exeter, resigned on February 18 and is to be Prebendary Emeritus.
The Rev W S Shire, Rector of Aldwincle with Thorpe Achurch and Pilton with Wadenhoe and Stoke Doyle, diocese of Peterborough to resign on April 30.
The Rev B L Stafford, Vicar of Market Harborough, St Hugh, diocese of Leicester, to retire on July 31.
The Rev A H Trory, Vicar of St Helen, Gateshead, diocese of Durham, to resign on June 30.
Canon E S Turnbull, Residentiary Canon of Worcester Cathedral, diocese of Worcester, to resign on September 30.

Latest wills

Latest estates include (net, before tax paid):
Collins, Mrs Mildred Agnes, of Great Totham, Essex .. £203,331
Somers, Lady, of Eastnor, Hereford and Worcester, widow of the sixth Baron Somers £28,034
Thomas, Lady, of Ascot, Berkshire £157,298
Waddington, Mr John Crossley, of Fawley, Henley-on-Thames, farmer £1,141,315
Wintle, Mr Willoughby Douglas, of Cromer, Norfolk, rubber planter £218,028

Royal Photographic Society

The following awards for 1981 have been announced by the council of The Royal Photographic Society:

Progress medal: Mr Norman Parkinson; Hood medal: Mr Freddie Reed; Rodman medal: Marian Hudson; Henderson medal: Dr Arnost Reiser; Williamson research award: Angela M. Darling; Fenton medal: Mr Clifford Morris; Honorary fellowships: Mr Charles E. Brown, Mr Jack A. Fairfax Fozzard, Mr E. Chambré Hardman, Mr Kenneth G. Moreman and Dr Guy W. W. Stevens.

University news

Oxford

The Right Rev J.A.T. Robinson, MA, PhD, DD (Cambridge), Fellow, Dean of Chapel and lecturer in theology of Trinity College, Cambridge, has been appointed to the Bampton lectureship for 1984.

George Webb Medley Essay prize: J S Roberts, New Coll; Proxime Accessit: I R Harnett, Balliol Coll; Welsh Memorial drawing prize: Monique M K Pillai, St Hugh's Coll.

MERTON COLLEGE: Junior research fellowships, with effect from Oct. 1: A C Ottewill, BA, former Michel scholar, taberdar of Queen's Coll. (theoretical physics); M J Sharp, BA, former exhibitioner and scholar of Jesus Coll, Cambridge, (geophysics): A B Walhey, BA, former Cochrane scholar of St Edmund Hall, senior scholar of Merton Coll (music).

UMIST
Grant

Science and Engineering Research Council: £87,694 to Professors G F Kirkbright, P A Payne and M S Beck as an initial grant for equipment after the recognition of the department of instrumentation and analytical science as an SERC centre for instrumentation and analytical science.

Bristol
Grants
Department of Health and Social Security: £76,387 to Mr M Hill towards an investigation of monitoring the reformed supplementary benefits scheme.
Science and Engineering Research Council: £66,356 to Dr M N R Ashfold towards an investigation of studies of multiphoton excitation and ionization processes in simple gas phase molecules; £60,397 to Professor R N Dixon towards an investigation of decay of electronic excitation.

Nottingham
The following honorary appointments have been made:
Special professors: Dr A R Griffin, honorary curator of the National Mining Museum, Lound Hall, industrial history; Dr D L Ingram, researcher at the Institute of Animal Physiology at Babraham, Cambridge, environmental physiology; Dr B J Miflin, head of the biochemistry department, Rothamsted Experimental Station, Harpenden, plant physiology.
Special lecturers: Dr D J A Brown, research officer in the freshwater biology unit of the Central Electricity Research Laboratories, zoology; K T Elsdon, former inspector of schools, adult education; Rosemary E Fraser, director of the project "investigations on teaching with microcomputers as an aid" at St Mark's and St John's College, Plymouth, Shell Centre for Mathematical Education; J A C Gibson, director of the audio-visual education centre and the television research and training unit at Goldsmiths' College, London University, School of Education.

John Manning

The Queen inspecting New Zealand coins during the Trial of the Pyx yesterday.

Master coins a controversial phrase

By Tony Samstag

Like the best man at a wedding feast, the Queen's Remembrancer is bound by tradition to wax ever so slightly jocular in his capacity as judge (technically, he "presides") at the Trial of the Pyx, the ancient ceremony at which a jury drawn from members of the Goldsmiths' Company tests the size, weight and purity of British coins manufactured by the Royal Mint during the previous year.

At Goldsmiths' Hall in the City of London yesterday Master John Ritchie went one better and inadvertantly stirred the murky backwaters of history into a veritable maelstrom.

His charge to the jury was, as was appropriate, suitably wry but less than uproarious. Acknowledging the presence of the Queen, the first time in more than 300 years that a reigning monarch had attended the Trial of the Pyx, Master Ritchie began: "My charge to you will doubtless appear somewhat flat because we are all already supercharged by her Majesty's presence with us today.

"Sovereigns often used to attend this trial, usualy presiding over it. But it was 1669 when the last one did. He was Charles II and I wonder what his charge to the jury was. It has not been recorded but it probably was addressed in short terms such as 'Be good enough to discover as quickly as possible what Cromwell has been doing to the coinage'."

It is only a slight exaggeration to observe that at this point a ripple of consternation passed through the select band of the truly knowlegeable in such matters, among them Miss Susan Hare, librarian to the Goldsmiths' Company. If anyone is capable of snapping to attention while seated it is Miss Hare, whose bearing is rarely less than military in a most kindly sort of way. And snap she did.

The visit of Charles II, you see, has never been proven. Officially, the last known visit of a reigning monarch was 58 years earlier, when James I attended in 1611.

Not that the Queen's Remembrancer, resplendant in his regalia, black cap, silver wig and all, was aware of the muted controversy he had provoked, or possibly would have cared. This was, after all, a kind of jamboree, celebrating the 700th Trial of the Pyx since Edward I signed the first known writ in 1282. What are a mere 58 years out of 700?

The Senior Master of the Supreme Court, which is the office Master Ritchie performs when he is not wearing his Queen's Remembrancer's cap, carried on charming his audience, which included, he noted, "the Master of the Mint . . . in full fig". Sir Geoffrey Howe, better known as Chancellor of the Exchequer, beamed.

Master Ritchie continued his charge to the jury, which had before it 2,758 gold and silver and 32,096 cupro-nickel coins of the United Kingdom, 13 silver and 60 cupro-nickel coins of New Zealand, "and of course the 34 silver coins of the Queen's own Maundy Money", to a total value of £152,000.

All of them carried a portrait of her Majesty, and his personal favourite was the most modern, done in 1968 by Mr Arnold Machin for the new decimal coinage.

"One of the matters I have never been able to discover is when and at whose suggestion a new representative of the soverign should appear. In a dream I once experienced the thought that perhaps it was my duty as her remembrancer at some stage to remind the Queen to have a new portrait made for the coinage, but nowhere could I discover the protocol to be followed.

"Needless to say, I awoke in a very anxious state, having imagined myself in chains on a slow barge trip to the Tower because of my deficient knowledge."

Have no fear, Master Ritchie, on either count.

Chinese art developing into a healthy market

A sale of contemporary Chinese paintings at Christie's in New York on Wednesday totalled $154,330 (£83,421), with 22 per cent bought in. The pictures, dating from 1950 onwards, were in traditional style, some on paper and others on silk, and included landscapes, portraits and flower studies.

Prices were often surprising, with acknowledged masters such as Oi Baishi and Zhanh Daqian remaining firm, while items by living artists realized prices suggesting daring in a young but potentially healthy market.

Ellsworth, the New York dealer, paid $37,400, or £20,216, (estimate $40,000-$50,000) for an album of eight leaves depicting assorted flowers and insects by *Oi Baishi* (1863-1957) and the Chinese Gallery of Art, New York, paid $17,000, or £9,513, (estimate $15,000-$20,000) for a hanging scroll of a buddha in ink and colour on paper by the same artist.

Nineteen-century drawings and watercolours offered at Christie's in New York, on Wednesday totalled $208,180, or £112,529. There was 21 per cent bought in. An anonymous Japanese collector, paid $8,250, or £4,459 (estimate $6,000 — $8,000) for a Jean Francois Millet drawing of sheep in a landscape near Fontainbleau dating to the early 1850s.

In London yesterday, Christie's sale of English furniture totalled £123,217, with 15 per cent unsold. Tillman, the London dealer, paid £6,264 (estimate £2,500 — £3,500) for a set of 12 George III ebonized and painted dining chairs.

Birthday today



Mr E. D. Weekes, the former Test cricketer, who is 57.

Lord Bridge of Harwich, 65; Sir James Goldsmith, 49; Dr B. J. Greenhill, 62; Major Sir Derrick Gunston, 91; Professor Eric Turner, 71.

England holds chess lead

By Harry Golombek, Chess Correspondent

There was little change in the leading positions after round four in the Western European Zonal Chess Tournament at Marbella, in Spain.

The English player, Jonathan Mestel, still enjoys the sole lead with the excellent score of 3 out of 4 after drawing with the black pieces against the Dutch master, Ligterink. John Nunn remains in second place with 2½ points after a rather dull draw with the Caro-Kann defence against Mark Hebden.

Ligterink and Stean follow with 2 points each. Stean drew with Rivas (Spain), but that was an exciting game with the result depending on some remarkable end-game play.

Short lost to Van der Wiel in a game that hinged on some end-game tempi and since Van der Wiel still has an adjourned game to finish against Rivas it is probable that the Dutch master will join Nunn in second place with 2½ points. Rivas has 1½ points, with two adjourned games. One of those is against Hebden and that looks to be lost for the English player.

The last two places are occupied by Short with 1 point and Hebden with ½ and one adjourned game.

At just past the halfway stage in this final event, two English players, Mestel and Nunn, look to have excellent chances of qualifying for the Interzonal and a third, Stean, is not without chances of gaining the remaining qualifying place.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:
Captain P. J. Symons, RN to be Commander British Navy Staff and Naval Attaché, Washington, and United Kingdom National Liaison Representative to Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic (SACLANT), in June, in the rank of rear-admiral, in succession to Rear-Admiral J. B. Hervey.

Professor Andrew F. Walls and **the Hon Caroline Douglas-Home** to be members of the board of trustees of the National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland.

Mr S. W. Hockey housemaster at Marlborough College, to be headmaster of Christ College, Brecon, in succession to Dr J. B. Cook, who is to be headmaster of Epsom College.

Moreover . . . Miles Kington

Many readers who enjoyed making pancakes this last Shrove Tuesday have written to ask me if there are any other days in the year they can look forward to, as their diaries seem to mark only Bank holidays in Scotland. Yes, certainly there are — in fact every day can be a holiday of some kind if you know your days properly.

Here are just a few of those available.

Placido Domingo. Literally, gloomy Sunday. A Mediterranean custom of going to church on Sunday morning, then wheeling out little old ladies in black dresses for a walk before Sunday lunch, which is traditionally devoted to family quarrels. In the afternoon we see Violetta, the wronged sweetheart, return to stab Esteban through the heart for his treachery, though she is to learn in Act IV that he had only done it to protect his friend Rodrigo. In the grand finale the whole family goes out to a local restaurant for dinner and all the children fall asleep at the table.

Stormy Monday. A black American festival, as commemorated in the old blues of the same name. "They call it stormy Monday, but Tuesday's just the same; yeah, they call it stormy Monday, but Tuesday's just the same". It is a lament by American blacks for all the time spent fruitlessly repeating the first lines of blues verses — time which, if properly used, could have advanced the cause of black Americans by 10 years, and there might now be American soul artistes on the moon.

Mardi Gras. "Fat Tuesday". The day, in France, on which all addicts of Cuisine Minceur can have a relapse from their good habits and eat as much grease as possible. In New Orleans (Nouvelle Orleans) it means something rather different (quelque chose de different) and the bands come out and play loud music on Mardi Gras (Fats Domino, Placido).

Sheffield Wednesday. A good old British custom celebrated once every 40 years. On Sheffield Wednesday all the inhabitants of Sheffield come out dressed in feathers and motley garb, in an attempt to get Brian Clough to come and manage one of their football teams. There is no known cure. (Also, Ash Wednesday, the day on which it is traditional to give up smoking for Lent.)

Maundy Thursday. A strange relic of medieval times, when calendars were so unsure that no one quite knew if it was Monday or Thursday, and loyal subjects were given the choice. Other little known examples are Wembley Friday, Sundry Tuesday, Thirsty Saturday and Pineapple Sundae.

Long Good Friday. The First Law of Chronology states that "weekends expand to fill available work-time" and Friday looks like being the next victim. Already Friday lunch-time starts at about 12 and ends about 3. People are starting to think that it is hardly worth going back to the office at 3. Traffic jams to the country are starting at about 2 on Friday afternoons. Hence the long good Friday. (Also Nancy Friday: the day in the US on which gays are allowed to do anything, and I mean *anything*. Well, for gosh sakes.)

Saturday Night Fever. Anthropologists have noticed that almost every tribe on earth suffers from the belief that something exciting will happen on Saturday night if only one dresses up colourfully and stays up late. (Television companies enjoy the same delusion.) Science can find no factual evidence for this belief, but then, when did you last find a scientist out having a good time on Saturday night? Well, then. Personally, I don't think you can beat roaming the streets at 1 am on a Sunday morning, looking for a non-existent taxi home in the rain, trying to remember the names of the people with you and being rather aware that five years ago you would probably have enjoyed all this. Well, then.

OBITUARY

MR NIKOLAY ANDREYEV
Studies in Russian history and literature

Mr Nikolay Efremych Andreyev, one of the most versatile Slavists in England, who died on February 25, was born in St Petersburg on March 13 1908 and brought up in Tallinn (Estonia) where both his parents were school-teachers.

His early promise won him a place at the Charles IV University in Prague, perhaps the most outstanding centre for all branches of Slav scholarship between the wars. Holding one of the coveted President Masaryk scholarships he studied under such eminent teachers as Murko, Weingart, Kizevetter and Niederle, and made medieval Russia his speciality.

His close connection with the Kondakov Institute, the foremost centre for research in medieval Slav culture, began as early as 1931; he was its librarian from 1934 and as acting Director during the war years managed to keep the institute going under great dificulties. On obtaining his doctorate in 1933 he became a Lecturer on Russian history and literature at the Russian Free University in Prague.

Though Andreyev took no part in politics this was enough, when the Russians occupied Prague at the end of the war, for him to be deported as a doubtful character to a camp in East Germany, from which he was released only some three years later. Return to Prague was out of the question. Fortunately his name came to the notice of Elizabeth Hill, then Professor of Slavonic Studies at Cambridge, as a displaced person in Berlin and she was able to secure him as Russian lector in her department.

He became a naturalized British subject in 1955, was made a member of Magdalene College in the same year, a full lecturer in the Department of Slavonic Studies a year later, and Reader in Russian Studies in 1973. His contribution to Russian studies in the university was immense. His lectures and seminars were always given in Russian (he was slow to master the English language) to the great advantage of the students. The catholicity of his interests, ranging from medieval ikons to contemporary Soviet literature, and his encyclopedic memory made him a particularly valuable director of post-graduate research. He had published much in his Prague years on many aspects of Russian civilization; it was a particular satisfaction to him in later years to take his place again as a Slavist of international repute and to have his work accepted for publication in various Soviet learned journals.

He was elected a Fellow of Clare Hall in 1968.

In 19[illegible] he married Gill Huddleston, daughter of the late Sir [illegible]ert Huddlestone. She had been one of his outsanding pupils at Girton College. By her he had two sons and a daughter.

MR GEORGE SAVAGE

Mr George Savage, who died in Colchester on February 18 aged 72, was one of this country's most distinguished writers on ceramics and the decorative arts. He was also one of the most prolific.

His international reputation was established by his books on English, French and German pottery and porcelain, but his work included scholarly studies of glass, bronzes, jade, interior decoration and French decorative art, and valuable contributions to the history and identification of fakes and forgeries and the craft of restoration. *Porcelain through the Ages*, continuously in print for 25 years, was probably the most widely acclaimed of his books, but many were published in America and in French, German, Italian, Dutch, Spanish, Yugoslavian and Czechoslovakian translations.

In the last 10 years of his life George Savage made something of a speciality of the writing of dictionaries. His first, *The Dictionary of Antiques*, was published in 1970 and became a best-seller, and he built on this success with the *Dictionary of Ceramic Terms* (with Harold Newman); *Dictionary of 19th Century Antiques* and *Dictionary of Wedgwood* (with Robin Reilly).

When ill-health prevented his travelling to undertake his own research, he settled, without apparent discomfort, for collaboration and he was unusually generous in his acceptance of criticism or correction from specialist co-authors. He was adviser to *Encyclopedia Britannica* to which he contributed long articles on interior decoration and the pottery and porcelain of the Far East. Until his retirement from active business George Savage was for many years a dealer in antiques and works of art. He was also council member of the British Antique Dealers' Association. During this period he bought for many distinguished collectors and for several museums, for which he acted as consultant.

In all his work George Savage succeeded, to an extraordinary degree in combining scholarship with wit, and depth of research with breadth of vision. These qualities, and his uncompromising opinions upon any subject, made him the liveliest of companions. He described himself as "d[illegible] tatious", and it is those who agree with that description who will miss him the most.

MRS SARA THOMAS

Mrs Sara (Sally) Thomas, widow of the theatre director, Stephen Thomas, who died in hospital on February 22, aged 71, was exceedingly talented as actress, musician, lyrical poet, and writer.

Looking like a pre-Raphaelite portrait, with her beautiful auburn hair, she acted under her maiden named of Sara Jackson. Trained first as a musician, and then at the Embassy School of Acting where she won a scholarship and was taught by Barbara Couper, she appeared at the Birmingham Repertory Theatre in 1941 (Margaret Leighton was her understudy) and played Ophelia to the Hamlet of George Hayes, and Perdita at Stratford-upon-Avon in 1942.

She was Perdita again, "from the right cottage" said a critic, this time in her husband's production when *The Winter's Tale* toured during the war. It came at length to the Open Air Theatre in Regent's Park, with Ernest Milton as Leontes and Vivienne Bennett (who would be a lasting friend) as Paulina.

She moved away from the theatre, though she did a little for the BBC where she met her second husband, Stephen Thomas, who became Drama Director of the British Council. In later years she read poetry once or twice, and with much effect, at Keats House.

After her husband's death in 1961 she did little more, but she celebrated him in a most sensitive memoir, *Day With No Sorrow* (1968) and she contributed a number of lyrical poems to *The Saturday Book*: She had begun to write in her theatre dressing room. In Hampstead where she was a familiar figure, gentle and affectionate, she devoted much of her time to gardening and to her family of cats.

She was married first to John Richmond by whom she had a son.

MR B. T. SMITH

Mr Bernard Theophilus Smith (always known in the circles in which he moved as "BT") died on February 10.

His long pre-eminence in cold-store design and construction spanned the birth and development of the convenience-foods society. He was usually regarded as the inventor of the modern cold-store, and his firm, Smith & Partners Ltd, designed and contructed more than 75 per cent of the entire cold-storage volume existing in Britain.

The firm was founded by his grandfather Theophilus Smith in Burton on Trent in 1874, on the same site as it now occupies. At first it made steam-absorption plants for the breweries, and was subsequently run by Theophilus's son whose own son "BT" succeeded him on his death in 1929.

With the depression, "BT" diversified the firm into insulation for hop-stores, using charcoal and timber as insulants. Bottled beer was becoming increasingly popular, and cold-stores were therefore designed and constructed for the breweries. He was a founder member of the British Refrigeration Association in 1939.

With the onset of the convenience-foods revolution in the 1950s, "BT" invented, pioneered and developed the prefabricated panel construction technology which has since come into universal use for cold-storage chambers.

He leaves two sons, who control the family firm and continue its tradition.

RIGHT REV W. A. E. WESTALL

The Rt. Rev Wilfrid Arthur Edmund Westall, Bishop Suffragan of Crediton, 1954-74, died on February 22 at the age of 81. He was a former Archdeacon of Exeter and Canon Residentiary of Exeter Cathedral.

The son of the Rev. A St Leger Westall, he was educated at Merchant Taylors' School and St Chad's College, Durham. In 1925 he was ordained. He was an honorary DD of Exeter. A lively and outgoing man, unafraid of controversy or innovation he was a popular broadcaster appearing many times on the BBC *Any Questions* programme. He married in 1927 Ruth, daughter of Frank Evans. they had one son and three daughters.

Iris Lady Wedgwood, widow of Sir Ralph Wedgwood, first baronet, died on February [illegible] at the age of 95. She was Iris Veronica, daughter of A [illegible] Pawson, and she was married in 1906. Her husband died in 1956. She was the mother of Dame Veronica Wedgwood, OM, the distinguished historian.

Television

Mutinous thoughts

The order was given three times. "Pick up your kit. Fall in on the road. Move up to the 46th Division area." But 192 men who had fought at El Alamein and through Sicily sat in a field above Salerno and refused to move. How and why they did so was the subject of this week's Forty Minutes (BBC 2), in which Alan Patient discovered more survivors of this strange episode, mostly Geordies and Scots, than anyone before him. It was a disturbing inquiry in which two old soldiers at least were moved by the bitterness of memory to weeping on film and were unable to continue speaking before being gently pressed to go on.

But it was circumspect and puzzling, too. Many of the men were still wounded and recovering in Tripoli when Alexander's call for reinforcements came through, but why did a call intended for Philippeville in Algeria go to Tripoli at all? Why were they told first that they were being returned to their units and then, once at sea, that they were sailing back to the front line? Was it *only* because they were not being returned to their units that they refused to do as they were told? After all, hundreds of thousands of men obeyed orders they knew to be foolish, humiliating and even dangerous in both world wars. Was it all Monty's fault? They were Eighth Army men, and Monty had taught them to believe they came from the finest family in the show, and that the rest were all rubbish. But, forty years on, the question nags: was that really all?

The court-martial sat in the Ecole Normale at Constantine; 191 men — the 192nd was an administrative error who had strayed into the wrong cage — were found guilty of mutiny and sentenced to penal servitude or death. One sergeant was made to read his own capital sentence, and to wait 14 days before it was commuted, as they all were. Vindictively thrown back into the fiercest fighting, many preferred desertion and 10 years' hard labour to near-certain death. They had minds of their own, in short. In a war: unforgivable.

Distinguished elderly lawyers variously told Mr Patient that the men should never have been court-martialled in the first place or that the convicted sergeants should certainly have been shot. Painfulness crowned paradox and paradox pain. The sentences were intended to be exemplary but were classified Top Secret; courts-martial proceedings remain inaccessible for 75 years, to protect the accused and their families — the very people, indeed, who wish the whole truth to come out.

Michael Ratcliffe





Faces on film: Warren Beatty (above), all charm and toughness; and Timothy Hutton in "Taps" . . . a latter-day male equivalent of Lana Turner?

Cinema

Beatty's labour of romantic high-mindedness

Reds (AA)

Empire, Leicester Square

Absence of Malice (A)

Odeon, Leicester Square

Taps (AA)

Plaza 1; Classic, Chelsea

Hallowe'en II (X)

Warner, West End; Classic, Haymarket; Studio, Oxford Street

Warren Beatty's **Reds** is a brave, unlikely and quixotic enterprise. The director-star spent a decade of his own life and somewhere between $35m and $60m of his investors' money on the project. It is unlikely, for America at least, to the extent that the hero to whom this big capitalist investment is dedicated was an avowed and unrepentant Communist, who earned the unique distinction for an American of being buried in the Kremlin wall with the heroes of the Soviet Revolution.

John Reed was a Harvard graduate who joined the ranks of American radicals in the years just before the First World War, writing for *The Masses* and involving himself actively in the labour battles of the International Workers of the World. In 1916, in Portland, Oregon, he met Louise Bryant, a dentist's wife who had already achieved local notoriety by her outspoken views on women's rights and sexual freedom. Reed discovered in her "an artist, a rampant joyous individualist, a poet and a revolutionary" and fell in love. Bryant joined him in New York where they lived and worked together and eventually married.

Their radical ideas, sexual independence and normal human feelings of jealousy and guilt seem often to have been grotesquely confused. Bryant had a long affair with Eugene O'Neill; Reed had his own lovers. Bryant went to France to cover the war (and maybe to escape from the emotional chaos) and then in August 1917 journeyed to Russia on further newspaper assignments. Reed turned up there about the same time, independently. Returning to the United States in 1918, Reed wrote his history of the Revolution, *Ten Days That Shook the World* (reissued this week by Penguin at £1.95), which was later to provide Eisenstein with the basis of his film *October*. Bryant, a better writer, collected her newspaper articles into *Six Red Months in Russia*.

Reed returned to the Soviet Union in 1919 as delegate of the Communist Labour Party of America, newly formed in defiance of the growing Red scares and Palmer Raids. Bryant followed, as a correspondent for the Hearst newspapers. Soon after their reunion in 1920, Reed, already weakened by a kidney complaint and a spell of imprisonment in Finland, died of typhus. Louise Bryant lived on until 1936, when she died in an automobile accident.

It is out of these events that Warren Beatty and his English co-writer Trevor Griffiths have fashioned a romance, set against the background of stirring historical events — the rise and suppression of American radicalism; the Great War; the Revolution. It is an honourable method (cf. Tolstoy, Pasternak) but one that demands a fine sense of equilibrium. The risks become apparent when the storming of the Winter Palace coincides, not without a touch of misplaced symbolism, with the American couple's sexual reunion. But by and large Beatty maintains his balance and respects historical values: he displays his characters' Marxist ideals without cynicism or condescension, even if he shows the onset of disillusion as sooner and more brutal than may have been the case.

He links recreation and reality by using a recurring chorus of real figures who remember the times and in some cases the people of his drama — they include Henry Miller, Rebecca West, George Jessel, Hamilton Fish, Dora Russell and the ancient and reactionary queen of Hollywood fan magazines, Adela Rogers St Johns. Perversely, though, Beatty does not identify them: the withered faces appear in maddening anonymity. Although it provides observant viewers with a spot-the-nonagenarian game (my score is a low five) to deprive them of their identities deprives them also of authority.

Beatty is not presumably so naive as merely to fear that indentification would give his film the look of television reportage. So we can only surmise that his reason for keeping documentary at a distance was to prevent too close an examination of his own version of history.

He does seem to have taken some liberties for the sake of romance. As Reed, Beatty's mixture of charm and toughness is credible; but Diane Keaton underestimates Louise Bryant. Bryant's fight for emancipation must have been far more aggressive than Annie Hall's. It is too simple, moreover, to focus the betrayal and disillusion of the Revolution on the single figure of Zinoviev (shown, accusingly, wolfing a feast of caviare): Zinoviev's worst flaw was a fatal vacillation. For such a long film, some of its points are, like this one, very baldly made, while others are laboured to the point of tedium.

The intentions are exemplary. The parts are wholly excellent — the staging, the design, clever use of popular music of the period; fine performances by (among others) Maureen Stapleton as the legendary Emma Goldman and Jack Nicholson as O'Neill. The whole, though, just does not deliver the satisfaction and exhilaration of an integrated dramatic composition.

Sydney Pollack's **Absence of Malice** (which has just competed in the Berlin Film Festival) joins the long line of newspaper pictures which stretches back at least fifty years, to Lewis Milestone's *The Front Page*. In those days newsmen tended to be reluctant heroes. Now we are more sceptical about the media and Kurt Luedtke's screenplay portrays the daily press with fairly undisguised distaste.

Sally Field, with her permanent look of innocent crusader, is an eager young reporter with a naive cub faith that the truth must out. She is a ready tool for a shady faction in the justice department who want to smear an innocent man, hoping to smoke out useful information. She gullibly prints their planted information. The smears stick: one life is wrecked and another lost before the victim turns the tables, plants his own false information on the media and topples the dirty tricksters in the DA's office.

The film's reflections on the responsibilities of the media do not go very deep. The pleasure of the film is rather as a well-scripted, beautifully contrived drama, with a morally satisfying third-act denouement. Pollack uses Miami locations to create a very tangible feel of the Florida scene and Florida society.

The performances add to the pleasure. At 57 Paul Newman is still the most handsome of Hollywood leading men. Sally Field makes the girl's bright, eager, thoughtless ambition as credible as it is awful; and the supporting performances of Luther Adler, Melinda Dillon, John Harkins and Wilford Brimley (a blacksmith turned scene-stealer) are all incisive.

Taps, directed by Harold Becker and based on a novel by Devery Freeman, is a small, promising idea whose possibilities have all been exhausted long before its two hours and more have run out. The boys of a military academy are deeply influenced by the chivalrous ideals — verging on the fanatic — of their commandant (George C. Scott). When events abruptly remove the commandant and threaten the school with instant closure, the boys take up their arms to withstand siege by the forces of law, order and parental authority.

The script painstakingly explores the tensions between the three leading boys: the hothead who eventually precipitates the inevitable bloody finale; the rational mediator; and the gentle, idealist acting commander, played by Timothy Hutton. The success of the film in the United States appears to be largely due to the attractions of young Hutton, the boy from *Ordinary People*, for the teenage audience. With wells of tears for eyes, he seems set to play the male equivalents of those great emotional roles which Lana Turner once filled.

Taps at least looks as if it was made by people with minds and some vague thoughts about the dangers of the military sentiment. **Hallowe'en II** looks like the result of a computer malfunction. The teenage-holocaust school of horror is reduced to a monotonous recital of killings, corpses, gore and cremations. A psychopath, homicidal and boringly indestructible, stalks; Donald Pleasence is anguished; Jamie Lee Curtis, as always, comes out screaming but unscathed. John Carpenter, with Debra Hill, takes credit for the script, which hardly deserves the name. Rick Rosenthal directs without managing to bring off even the most mechanical horror effects.

David Robinson

Opera

Heroine transformed

Manon

Coliseum

Few musicians have argued the cause of French opera more effectively over the past few years than Valerie Masterson. She is certainly the force behind the Coliseum revival of *Manon* this week. Massenet's score may drag its sentimental feet from time to time, but Manon herself grows up with remarkable speed and Miss Masterson reveals every aspect of that change.

There is the waif-like creature of the opening scene in Amiens, the girl still living half in her dreams but more interested in a fling than a stay in the convent. Paris immediately teaches her to be more calculating, but she is still uncertain: the monologue of hesitation before Manon says farewell to her little table was marvellously handled by Miss Masterson. At the Cours-la-Reine a few different doubts have set in and there are streaks of sadness in the Gavotte — Valerie Masterson herself now has to take a little more care than once she did in negotiating the upper notes. Finally, on the road to Le Havre, there is the broken woman, the one-time coquette, reaching out into the evening sky for her lost diamonds. "Et c'est là, l'histoire de Manon", as she says herself, impersonated to admiration in voice and gesture. At the curtain Valerie Masterson caught the first three bouquets thrown from the stalls cleanly and single-handed. We could have done with her in Sri Lanka.

The rest of the revival is on a good repertory level, no more. John Brecknock, her partner when this production was new, turns in a variable Des Grieux. He is at his best when singing full out at the end of the opera; earlier the voice lacked the suavity Massenet demanded and tenors such as Legay unfailingly provided. Nor does he cut much of a figure on stage: there was doggy affection rather than passion for Manon and it was difficult to see just what makes the ladies of the St Sulpice congregation swoon when Des Grieux takes up holy orders in Act III. Alan Opie's sturdy Lescaut, Geoffrey Chard's sombre Count — Massenet's reflection of Germont Père from *La traviata* — and a venomous De Bretigny from Patrick Wheatley all are much stronger characterizations.

The production needs pulling together, preferably by the original director, John Copley. Some of the sets still enchant, notably the courtyard in Amiens with the dappled sunlight on the roofs much in the style of another Henry Bardon design for a Massenet opera, *Werther* at Glyndebourne some years ago. The Cours-la-Reine is a clever Watteau pastiche, accurately mirroring Massenet's own musical pastiches, but the ballet is dreary. No wonder Manon comments that she did not notice it. And the *melodrames* are poorly handled. Lionel Friend in the pit has good rapport with his star, Valerie Masterson, who makes this revival well worthwhile, but he could apply a silkier hand to parts of the score.

John Higgins

Concerts

Programmed poise

City of London Sinfonia/Hickox

Queen Elizabeth Hall

A vital balance is the keynote of Richard Hickox's City of London Sinfonia. You find it in their string sound, where the violin's fine strength and brightness, like silver wire, is not so much blended with softer violas and cellos as complemented by them.

You find it also in their programmes, of which Wednesday night's was a particularly exquisite example. We began and ended in E flat as so differently inhabited by J. C. Bach and Stravinsky. And, as those names may hint, there was a nice equipoise of classic and modern with Mozart's Clarinet Concerto, played by Jack Brymer, set against the Flute Concerto of Nigel Osborne.

This work was commissioned by the orchestra for an earlier occasion and it was good to see them giving a second hearing to a much applauded piece, doing so, moreover, with their own flautist, Duke Dobing, taking over the solo from Aurèle Nicolet and drawing it into more sober and reflective regions, worried rather than hectic. Two such excellent performances within two years are a tribute to the stimulus contained within the music.

For the listener, too, Osborne's concerto is an exciting experience, vividly so in its outer movements but no less in the still, luminous slow movement, with such things as a glorious sunset for strings and high oboe in descent. It is also a piece that can converse meaningfully with the eighteenth century. The third "Brandenburg", coming afterwards, revealed within itself something of the same sparkling combination of separate lines, textures, metres, harmonic planes.

On the other hand, the contemporary work became a corrective to the J. C. Bach symphony heard before. The minuet finale, though common in the early classical period, had long been overtaken by events, so that inevitably one expects something else to follow. Osborne's finale shows how an ending can be abrupt but also final, for just at the point when all the splinters have been assembled, just at the point when the music is ready to take off, it stops.

Paul Griffiths

Background: Brandis Quartet

A balance of personalities

"And here — here is the end of the world." With the February sun lighting the Tiergarten's bare silver birches behind, and the grey quietness of morning in East Berlin ahead, Thomas Brandis, founder of the Brandis Quartet of Berlin and leader of the Berlin Philharmonic, showed me the Wall. "People are leaving Berlin now — it's all old ladies and dogs — they don't want to live on an island. . . ."

For musicians, west and east of the Wall, travel at least is a little easier. The Brandis Quartet, in the six years of their life, have already played in Vienna, Leipzig, Budapest, Leningrad and Paris. This week they have been visiting Bayreuth, Hanover and Bremen before starting their first British tour, with a concert at Oxford tonight and their London debut at the Queen Elizabeth Hall on Sunday afternoon.

By the age of 10, Brandis had already decided he wanted to have a string quartet. He formed one as a student, but the young members eventually went their different ways. Meanwhile he studied as a soloist in England with Max Rostal, joined the Berlin Philharmonic in 1961, and became a member of their Soloists ensemble. "But I'd always said that by the time I was 40 I'd have my own string quartet — and that's how it was". With the cellist Wolfgang Boettcher and two younger members of the BPO (Peter Brem, now second violin and the quartet's manager, and Wilfried Strehle, chosen for the warmth and character of his viola playing) they gave their first concert in 1976 in the small German town of Hitzacher. A year later they twice filled the 2,000-seat Philharmonie in Berlin.

The quartet is well named. Brandis makes it clear: "I wanted to build the quartet with my ideas and those of Wolfgang. I don't believe in homogeneity. A quartet is an ensemble of four players, and you must hear all the personalities. I've loved the Amadeus since I was a boy: they are four distinct personalities and I'd like to think that's our hallmark too." The musical maturity, close rapport and strength of personality of the two outer parts work like an electric charge, visibly and audibly sharpening and energizing the playing.

"Perhaps it's not so good that we are still in an orchestra; but it is good that we're in *this* orchestra". They have been labelled as producing "the Karajan sound in miniature". But a quartet is a very different creature from an orchestra. Compliment or insult? "I don't like to hear that, no. Because the Karajan sound is always a little too smooth, too soft for me. But above all, in this orchestra you learn to *listen* — and the main thing in ensemble playing is listening."

That confirmed everything I heard the afternoon before in the Philharmonie. Karajan was rehearsing for a concert performance of *Tosca* with Ricciarelli, Raimondi and Carreras. There, the orchestra, in turn, seemed like a magnified chamber ensemble, and the atmosphere was that of a performance, not a rehearsal.

Herbert von Karajan spoke warmly and enthusiastically to me of the quartet itself; ironically his praise, and indeed indirect influence on their careers together, will soon lose him his number one leader. With 13 students, continuing solo work, and coaching for the European Community Youth Orchestra, Brandis now considers his main work as being with the quartet, and he plans to leave the orchestra in 1983 or 1984, as Wolfgang Boettcher did six years ago.

Although he feels few quartets have built up such a wide repertoire in six years, Brandis is eager to expand past the solid core of Haydn, Mozart, Schubert and Beethoven. They already have a considerable number of first performances behind them, including works by Beyer and von Einem; the premiere of a quartet by the Austrian Giselher Klebe is planned for next year. At Edinburgh this year they will give the first performance of some pieces by György Kurtag.

Brandis nevertheless wants 90 per cent of their repertoire to remain classical. Schubert's "Death and the Maiden", which they will play on Sunday and in Birmingham, Leeds and Rochdale, is, for them, the quartet par excellence. "I don't know how Schubert did it. There's no symphony like this . . . I learnt from my childhood that a quartet must learn from a singer. It is Fischer-Dieskau and Peter Schreier who tell me how to play Schubert. I tell my students they must go to song recitals to learn how to play the violin. . . ."

Hilary Finch

Theatre

Edward II

Round House

Brecht's version of *Edward II* sank like a lead balloon when the National Theatre staged it in 1968, and we have had to wait for this Foco Novo production to discover what the work is about.

First of all, it is an original play, not an adaptation along the lines of Brecht's rehash of *The Recruiting Officer*. It contains chunks of Marlowe (still recognizable through William Smith and Ralph Manheim's boomerang translation), but the specifically Marlovian elements have gone: no glittering imagery, no arias, no renaissance glamour. Gaveston changes from a "sly inveigling Frenchman" into an Irish Mick all set to inherit the earth. Marlowe's geometrically compressed time scheme stretches out to the full 19 years from the coronation to the murder. The 40 characters shrink to a cast of 20. And, in this most pitiful of royal histories, there is hardly a moment of pathos.

Partly a counter-play, it is also a companion piece to Brecht's *Jungle of Cities*: another duel to the death between two amoral champions. Edward stands for the wisdom of the body, Mortimer for the sovereignty of the mind. And the excitement of the piece derives from the growth that takes place from those fixed positions.

Mortimer, when we first see him, is a scholar contemptuously surveying the vanity of the world from the seclusion of his library, and gradually enticed into applying his intellect to the business of politics. The Queen begins as a humiliated Marlovian wraith, but once she switches allegiance to Mortimer — betraying her husband and son — she declines into drunken gluttony, laughing at the "emptiness of the world"; just as Mortimer did before he was drawn into the game. As for the King, Brecht changes him from a passionately helpless victim of events into a campaign-hardened warrior who first refuses to sign the order for Gaveston's banishment and then refuses to abdicate. Brecht transforms the physical horrors of his imprisonment into scenes of political brainwashing which Edward — exulting in his torments — resists to the end; still true to his doctrine of the body.

Roland Rees's production is a good example of what can be gained by casting off the fetters of orthodox Brechtian staging. The intention of the play is never in doubt; but it is revealed without any of the apparatus of slide projections, parenthetical song or fixed lighting.

There are high back walls, two long entrances, and a battery of brass and percussion, whose clanking rhythms for the coronation immediately forecast the drums that are to keep the captive Edward from sleep. The coronation scene also sets up another convention, introducing a group in tableau at the stage margin before bringing them on: a simple device that cancels out the idea of historical realism and enables the playing to take in high passion and intrigue along with the grotesque and broad comedy — as where a bedraggled group of four trudge on and introduce themselves as the King's army, saluting him with a glum hurrah.

David Dixon's Edward first appears as a nervous boy, snatching the mace from the Archbishop's hands, and immediately recalling and honouring his exiled favourite; unambiguously recognizable as the King's whore, even without the merry guffaws that go up when he is seen "showing the Earl of Cornwall his catapult". His transformation, first into a bearded, feverishly active campaign soldier, and finally into a filthy skeleton, hauled about with a tin bucket over his head, is one index of the ground the production covers. The sight of that grinning spectre, momentarily returned to the throne and challenging Ian Hogg's amiably pitiless Mortimer with a superb return to the royal "we", is what I shall remember most from the show.

Another fine passage is the last sight of Billy McColl's Gaveston, digging his grave, while the King conducts a simultaneous scene with his barons, each side invisible to the other; thus creating one moment of intense pathos entirely through the use of space.

Irving Wardle



Donald Cooper

Ian Hogg, with Beth Morris as Queen Anne

BBCSO/Pritchard Organ Spectrum

Festival Hall

Roger Sessions, composer, teacher and writer, was on Wednesday the representative American in the fourth of the Royal Philharmonic Society's series of seven concerts with an American connexion. One of the most influential composers of his generation, he is also one of the most European: this work, from his middle period, steams with the expressionist chromaticism of Schoenberg, and leers with the braying, ironic high spirits of Shostakovich in its tiny, capricious second movement, its finale's parodistic brass and knotty wind writing.

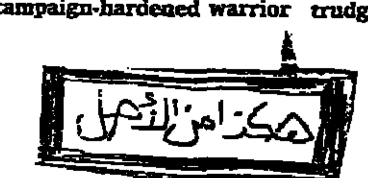
But while those fingerprints help to locate the work, they also throw into relief its marked individuality, a tough, gnawing counterpoint of harmonies, a disquieting and dislocated neo-classical machinery, tugging fitfully, yet with a rigorous logic, against the waves of stylistic and subjective nostalgia. The BBC Symphony Orchestra conducted by John Pritchard were on top form, with some outstanding wind solos outlining the Adagio's elegiac memorial of Roosevelt.

Walton's Cello Concerto was premièred by the Boston Symphony Orchestra and first performed in Europe by the BBCSO at a Royal Philharmonic Society concert. Ralph Kirshbaum gave an appropriately celebratory performance, making the work seem *bolder*, more fibrous, less heady in its finely imagined and crafted Ravellian sound world than it sometimes does.

Particularly telling was the nature of recall from the first to the last movement; Kirshbaum's rich, expansive handling of the long lyrical opening theme echoed as if from a great distance in the finale's epilogue. Each variation or improvisation became a tense and constantly fluctuating self-communing which tingled in turn the nerves of the orchestral episodes.

Variation and improvisation in its most basic form had earlier in the evening characterized one of the more colourful programmes of the GLC's Organ Spectrum series. John Birch invested the textbook Air with Variations by Henry Smart (1813-1879) with admirable grace and charm; while Michael Laird and Paul Archibald, joining him for the first London performance of Geoffrey Burgon's *Sanctus Variations* for two trumpets and organ, did what they could with its remarkably laboured vacuity.

Hilary Finch



Stock Exchange Prices

Equities mixed

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Feb 15. Dealings End Today. § Contango Day, Mar 1. Settlement Day, Mar 8.

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days



BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS

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LOCAL AUTHORITIES

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BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

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BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

[illegible]

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A—B

[illegible]

C—E

[illegible]

F—H

[illegible]

I—L

[illegible]

M—N

72	Marchwiel	128	+2	9.4	7.4	7.1
108	Marks & Spencer	139	..	5.8	4.2	16.9
33½	Marley Ltd	45	● ..	3.2	7.1	12.5
14½	Marling Ind	34	-½	1.4	4.1	23.8
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21	Do A	44	..	4.0	9.0	3.9
178	Martin News	325	..	13.9	4.3	7.0
209	Martonair	323	..	10.5	4.9	13.0
48	Medminster	67	..	5.3	7.9	7.2
140	Menzies J.	240	+2	5.6	2.4	12.0
128	Metal Box	174	-2	16.5	9.5	15.3
37¼	Metalrax	45	..	3.1	6.9	7.3
12	Mettoy	12	..	0.1	1.2	..

O—S

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T—Z

High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
26	15	TACE	20	-1	..	..	..
121	85	TSL Therm Synd	92	● ..	10.0b	10.9	11.4
25¾	10[fraction]	Takeda BDR	£22¼	-¼	17.6	0.8	24.2
6½	2½	Talbex Grp	4½	..	..	..	..
440	316	Tarmac Ltd	424	+4	23.3	5.5	7.3
220	126	Tate & Lyle	194	..	16.4	8.5	4.8
607	441	Taylor Woodrow	555	..	19.0	3.4	9.9
480	250	Telephone Rent	328	-3	14.6	4.5	16.3
71	48½	Tesco	55	+1	3.8	6.9	5.9

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) February 25	Market rates (close) February 25	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.8250-1.8350	$1.8330-1.8340	par-0.10c disc	0.45-0.55c disc
Montreal	$2.2270-2.2390	$2.2370-2.2380	0.17-0.27c disc	0.90-1.00c disc
Amsterdam	4.75-4.79fl	4.76¾-4.77¾fl	2-1½c prem	5-4½c prem
Brussels	79.30-79.80f	79.55-79.65f	5-25c disc	18-38c disc
Copenhagen	14.53-14.59k	14.55-14.56k	30-120ore disc	330-465ore disc
Dublin	1.2220-1.2330p	1.2305-1.2320p	45-60p disc	135-155p disc
Frankfurt	4.33-4.36m	4.34-4.35m	1¾-1¼pf prem	4¼-3¾pf prem
Lisbon	126.30-128.00e	127.65-127.95e	45-155c disc	130-385c disc
Madrid	188.00-188.75p	188.25-188.45p	20-45c disc	108-135c disc
Milan	2321-2336lr	2321½-2323½lr	13-16lr disc	43-46lr disc
Oslo	10.84-11.93k	10.97-10.98k	160-70ore prem	100-10ore prem
Paris	11.05-11.09f	11.06¾-11.07¼f	¼-1¼c disc	4¼-5¼c disc
Stockholm	10.56-10.60k	10.58-10.59k	70-par ore prem	165-175ore disc
Tokyo	430-436y	432-433y	315-270y prem	810-770y prem
Vienna	30.40-30.58sch	30.50-30.55sch	17-13gro prem	40-33gro prem
Zurich	3.43-3.46f	3.44¾-3.45¾f	2¼-1¾c prem	4¾-4¼c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was 91.2 up 0.4.

Money Market Rates

Clearing Banks Base Rate 13½%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 13½ Low 8

Week Fixed: 13½

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	13½	2 months	13⅜
3 months	13[fraction]	3 months	13[fraction]

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

1 month	13[fraction]-13[fraction]	1 month	14⅛
2 months	13½-13[fraction]	2 months	14¼
3 months	13[fraction]-13[fraction]	3 months	13[fraction]
6 months	12[fraction]-12¾	6 months	13½

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	14¾-14½	7 months	14-13¾
2 months	14½-14¼	8 months	14-13¾
3 months	14½-14¼	9 months	14¼-14
4 months	14¼-14	10 months	14¼-14
5 months	14¼-14	11 months	14¼-14
6 months	14-13¾	12 months	14⅛-13⅞

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	14⅛-14	6 months	13[fraction]-13[fraction]
3 months	13[fraction]-13[fraction]	12 months	13[fraction]-13[fraction]

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	14¼	3 months	13[fraction]
7 days	14¼	6 months	13[fraction]
1 month	14¼	1 year	14-13¾

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 14½-14¼ Close 5

1 week	14½-14⅜	6 months	14[fraction]-13[fraction]
1 month	14[fraction]-14[fraction]	9 months	14-13⅞
3 months	14[fraction]-13[fraction]	12 months	14-13⅞

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)

3 months 14½ 6 months 14

Finance House Base Rate 13½%

Other Markets

Australia	1.6940-1.7090
Bahrein	0.6890-0.6920
Finland	8.2680-8.3080
Greece	111.40-113.40
Hongkong	10.7505-10.7995
Iran	not available
Kuwait	0.5190-0.5220
Malaysia	4.2090-4.2390
Mexico	70.50-73.00
New Zealand	2.3175-2.3375
Saudi Arabia	6.2530-6.2830
Singapore	3.8425-3.8725
South Africa	1.7845-1.7995

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.4865-1.4880
+ Canada	1.2210-1.2212
Netherlands	2.5965-2.6015
Belgium	43.40-43.45
Denmark	7.9500-7.9600
West Germany	2.3680-2.3690
Portugal	69.35-69.55
Spain	102.75-102.85
Italy	1274.00-1275.00
Norway	5.9900-6.0000
France	6.0360-6.0390
Sweden	5.7750-5.7850
Japan	235.65-235.80
Austria	16.64-16.66
Switzerland	1.8790-1.8800

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
+ Canada $1 : US $0.8189-0.8191

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 14-15; seven days, 13⅞-13⅝; one month, 14[fraction]-14[fraction]; three months, 14[fraction]-14[fraction]; six months, 14⅛-14.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $368.00 (an ounce); pm, $366.45 close, 366.50.
Krugerrand (per coin): $377-379 (£205.75-206.75).
Sovereigns (new): $89-90 (£48.50-49.00).

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

[illegible]

INSURANCE

[illegible]

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

[illegible]

SHIPPING

[illegible]

MINES

[illegible]

OIL

[illegible]

PROPERTY

[illegible]

RUBBER

[illegible]

TEA

[illegible]

MISCELLANEOUS

[illegible]

RECENT ISSUES

[illegible]

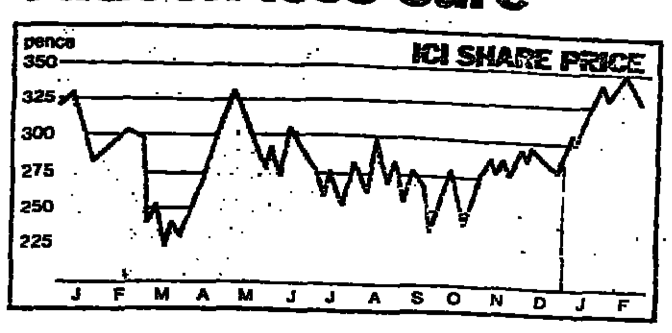
RIGHTS ISSUES

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BUSINESS NEWS

Outlook less sure



ICI shares slumped to 226p, their lowest level for several years, after shocking the stock market a year ago by announcing more than halved profits and its first dividend cut since the war. But on hopes of good 1981 figures and brighter prospects the shares started to move ahead sharply at the beginning of the year only to turn weaker this week on worries — borne out yesterday — that the immediate outlook is not promising.

RTZ agrees to buy Tunnel

Rio Tinto-Zinc, which recently took over Thos W. Ward, has now reached agreement to buy Tunnel Holdings. RTZ already owns 50.9 per cent of Tunnel's voting rights and is offering four RTZ shares for every three Tunnel "A" or "B" shares. At last night's price this values Tunnel's shares at 578p and the group at £168m. There is a cash alternative of 550p a share from RTZ'S own resources.

Shipping orders decline

New orders secured by the world's shipbuilding nations last year were 2 million tonnes lower than a year earlier although the industry's output in 1981 showed an appreciable gain on 1980 levels. Figures issued today by Lloyd's Register of Shippping showed that world shipbuilders have orders in hand totalling 35.3m tonnes gross. Among the nations which managed to increase their order books last year, Britain was one of eight nations with an order backlog of more than 1 million tonnes gross.

Post Office target review

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Industry, has ordered a review of the financial target of the Post Office. The present target, which requires the postal business to achieve a return of 2 per cent on turnover after interest, expires at the end of the coming financial year. Mr Jenkin said in the Commons he had agreed with the Post Office that it should reduce its unit costs by 5 per cent by 1984-85.

● The EEC Commission has dropped an anti-dumping case over Unted States polyester and cotton sheets and pillowcases because its inquiry found there was no case to answer despite British and Irish complaints.

● Receivers have been called in at Pearson and Co (Chesterfield), domestic pottery manufacturers, and Irvine Sellars Group (Holdings), the clothing company. Efforts are being made to sell both companies as going concerns.

● Businessmen will no longer be able to hide behind company names from today. New rules introduced by the 1981 Companies Act force all businesses to display the owners' names at the place of business. The names must be accompanied by an address and will also have to be shown on invoices and business letters.

● Romanian officials held exploratory talks with eight Western banks in Frankfurt yesterday on rescheduling an estimated $1,200m of debts due in 1981. More talks are likely soon.

MARKET SUMMARY

Amersham dominates

LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 551.8 down 0.8
FT Gilts 66.86 up 0.47
FT all-share 319.91 down 0.64 Bargains 24,339

Amersham International's debut dominated the early part of the day on the stock market, with the shares opening at 190p — a 48p premium. They slipped back to 186p but ended the day at 189p in heavy trading.

After opening on a bright spot up 6 points, disappointment over the ICI results outweighed optimism about interest rates and the FT Index ended 0.8 down at 551.8.

ICI slipped from 332p to 326p immediately ahead of the figures and the chairman's comment that there was no firm evidence of an improvement in demand this year, but closed unchanged at 328p.

Plessey shed 10p to 353p on its third quarter results, despite these being at the top end of the market's estimates, while Thorn EMI were another dull feature among leaders losing 13p to 453p.

Gilts opened better on the easing of United States interest rates and the prospect of a fresh decline in domestic rates but after early gains of £⅜-£¼ ended at the previous day's close in both long and short dates.

In its long-running take-over battle Burmah Oil, has again extended its offer for Croda International by a further week. But with 17.91 per cent of Croda's voting shares Burmah has received scarcely any more acceptances in the past week and must decide no later than Monday whether to raise its offer under takeover code rules. Croda shares were unchanged at 83p with Burmah 1p better at 109p.

News that Charterhouse Petroleum had made an agreed bid worth 198p per share for CCP North Sea provided a boost to the recently dull oil sector. CCP had been suspended at 145p and returned at 185p while Charterhouse shares were 1p off at 71p. Elswwhere in the sector Ultramar slid 11p to 390p an rumours of a rights issue but Lasmo put on 10p to 284p ahead of next week's results.

BSR were a weak feature in electricals, shedding 6p to 76p, after one broker revised his profit forecast for the year to December down from £7m to £5m.

Camping retailers Greenfields Leisure are expected to report losses of around £800,000 next week and the shares slumped to a low of 20p. Meanwhile the group's former associates, Milletts, languish at 83p, less than half their 1981/2 peak of 172p.

Food retailers were helped by an optimistic trading review from Tesco chairman Mr Leslie Porter, and the shares put on 1p to 55p.

Equity turnover on February 24 was £150.643m (16,865 bargains). Gareth David

COMMODITIES

● All eyes were on tin, which during the second day of the possible squeeze collapsed, offering the first contango since November. Cash tin hit a seven-month low of £7,320 a tonne, and three-month tin ended the day £65 above the cash price.

● Rubber rallied after the International Natural Rubber Organisation bought for its buffer stock. The April pice rose from 45.75p to 46.65 a kilogramme, and the May contract strengthened from 46.75p to 47.6p.

● The International Wheat Council has reduced its estimate of world coarse grain production in the current crop year by 2 million tonnes to 103m. But it has not changed its estimates of would wheat ouput and trade from 475 million tonnes and 100 million tonnes. The comparable figures last year were 445 million tonnes and 93 million tonnes.

OTHER EXCHANGES

Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones average 7,580.45 down 83.57.
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 1,265.0 down 2.12.
New York: Dow Jones industrial average closed at 825.82, down 0.95.

CURRENCIES

● The pound moved narrowly against the dollar. Both strenthened against other currencies in quite trading ahead of today's United States money supply figures.

Sterling
$1.8335, up 35 points
Index 91.2, up 0.4
DM 4.3450
Fr.F 11.0700
Yen 433.00
New York: $1.8287

Dollar
Index 112.9, up 0.4
DM 2.3685, up 50 points

Gold
$366.50, up $3.25
New York: $365.70

TODAY

Car and commercial vehicle production in January (final figures). Sales and orders in the engineering industries (November). Finished steel consumption and stock changes (fourth-quarter provisional).

Board Meetings: Half-yearly — Burndene Investments, Celtic Haven, Humberside Electronics. Finals — AI Industrial Products, Algemene Bank Nederland, T F and J H Braime, Leopold Joseph Sterling Fund, Olives Paper Mill, Yorkshire Fine Woollen Spinners.

MONEY MARKETS

Period rates werte slighyly easier where changed. The Bank of England bought £292m. of bills in response to a forecasrt shortaher of £200m. Its Band 1 rate was cut to13⅝ per cent.

Domestic rates:
Base rates 13½
3-month inter bank 14 11/16-13 15/16
Euro-currency rates
3-month dollar 14 1/16-14 5/16
3-month DM 10 7/16
3-month Fr.F. 15⅞-15⅝

Oil operators push for North Sea gas export

By Jonathan Davis, Energy Correspondent

Leading oil companies operating in the North Sea have told Mr Nigel Lawson, the Secretary of State for Energy, that they fear his plans to privatize the North Sea gas business do not go far enough to create a genuinely free gas market. Unless the Government agrees to allow exports of gas, the companies fear that its plans to break British Gas's monopoly purchase powers over gas — currently being considered by Parliament — will have little impact.

The issue was raised at a meeting earlier this week between the United Kingdom Offshore Operators' Association, which represents all the big oil companies that are active in the North Sea, and Mr Lawson at the Department of Energy. It follows a meeting of the association's council last week at which several companies expressed their disquiet about the inadequacy of the gas liberalization proposals in the Oil and Gas (Enterprise) Bill, which is now in commitee stage in the House of Commons.

The council originally wanted to send a letter to Mr Lawson outlining their fears, but agreed at the suggestion of officials at the Department of Energy to have urgent meetings with the Secretary of State and officials instead.

The operators' misgivings are likely to be embarrassing for the Government, since the oil companies are supposed to be the main beneficiaries if the Government's plans to end British Gas's statutory right to buy all gas produced in the North Sea. Mr Lawson hopes that ending the state corporation's monopoly will lead to a sharp increase in exploration for gas, and allow oil companies to sell gas direct to industrial consumers on the mainland.

But the companies told him that unless the Government allows exports of gas to the Continent, British Gas will still in practice be able to undercut them. Only if the industry can be guaranteed higher prices will there be a significant increase in exploration activity for gas offshore.

Disclosure of the association's move comes only a day after similar criticism was voiced in a paper from the Bow Group, the Conservative Party pressure group.

Earlier this month Mr Lawson said that the Government might be prepared to consider gas exports if new exploration produced sufficient extra supplies of gas to meet the needs of the British market. But the companjes' argument is that, under the present arrangements, which include a stipulation that all gas must be landed in this country, the exploration may never happen and the Bill could end up as a dead letter.

Mr Williams, the association's director-general, confirmed last night that the meeting had taken place. He said "at this moment the association is not pressing for any changes of amendments in the Bill". But the companies are believed to be hoping that Mr Lawson will be forced to make vital concessions when the regulations covering detailed aspects of the Bill are devised later this year.

● Shell and BP formally asked the British National Corporation for another reduction in North Sea prices yesterday, following the $1.50 a barrel cut earlier this month. BNOC is expected to have to concede a further cut of at least $2 a barrel, which will probably mean further falls in petrol prices.

ICI profit up £51m but gloom remains

By Ronald Pullen

Imperial Chemical Industries, Britain's biggest manufacturing group and a leading indicator of industry's health, warned yesterday that it could see little evidence of better times soon.

The caution of the ICI board contrasts with the more optimistic noises it was making last October, but Sir Maurice Hodgson, ICI's outgoing chairman, said: "There is considerable uncertainty over economic prospects for the remainder of 1982 in all major markets and there is no firm evidence yet of sustained improvments in demand".

However, the group's full year figures for 1981 more than satisfied the stock market. With a strong fourth quarter, ICI ended the year with pre-tax profits of £335m against the previous year's depressed £284m. Some indication of the group's confidence that the trading picture will improve this year comes with a bigger than expected increase in the dividend from 17p net to 19p. Last year, ICI took the unprecedented step of cutting its dividend from 23p after one of its worst ever years, culminating in a second half loss.

Desite the improvements, ICI is still losing heavily in several of its most important divisions. After last year's restructuring, the fibres loss has been cut from £86m to £36m and the group is tentaively hoping to break even this year if currencies do not move too adversely. The other loss-makers are organic chemicals, petrochemicals and plastics which together lost £84m against £113m, although there is less optimism that these will move out of the red.

Overall chemical sales increased 12 per cent to £5,750m last year although the volume gain was only 2 per cent and there was a 3 per cent fall in the United Kingdom market.

ICI appears to be taking a cautious line towards current year trading because of unpromising sales in January and February and the continued uncertainty over exchange rates which are of crucial importance in ICI's main markets.

Business Editor, page 17.

Sir Hugh leaves the Harrods group

Fraser cashes in his chips

By Philip Robinson

Almost a year ago to the day, Sir Hugh Fraser gave up gambling for the second time. He has lost more than £1m in the past and admits the habit has played an important part in his fall from public life.

Yesterday he severed all management links with the Harrods stores group, which was built up by his father and is now run by a man unconnected with the family and who was introduced by a merchant bank.

Ironically, it was the discloure of his return to the gaming tables and his admitted dishonoured cheques that shocked boardroom colleague's so much they dismissed him as chairman of the House of Fraser more than 12 months ago.

They did so just after he had made friends again with Lonrho chief Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland, whose group holds just under 30 per cent of Fraser and who had been making life difficult for the stores group directors. Up to that point, Sir Hugh had been supporting the board in its fight against what it called "harrassement" by Mr Rowland.

Sir Hugh, aged 45, went into the Scottish-based family business when he was 17. At 21 he came a director and eight years later one of the youngest chairmen of a public company.

He is acknowledged as a brilliant draper, but one who needed to be balanced by firm financial controls.

But it was his private life that eventually took over and pushed aside his business reputation.

Twice married Sir Hugh, once dubbed as the last really big gambler in Britain, lost an estimated £1.5m in 1976.



Sir Hugh Fraser: fresh start

Six years ago he told a Stock Exchange inquiry that he had sold 1.5 million shares in Scottish and Newcastle in 1975 to meet gambling losses.

Sir Hugh, who once pledged to give up drinking, smoking and gambling, said last night: "I have not gambled for more than a year. But the pressure is on at the moment. I'm still drinking, although not nearly as much."

He says he now intends to start again in the drapery business. he is spending £250,000 on a tailor's shop in Glasgow, Paisleys, and plans to extend into the drapery business. In August, he plans to marry for a third time, schoolteacher Annabell Finlay, aged 25.

Call for new industrial policy

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Mr Geoffrey Chandler, director general of the National Economic Development Office, yesterday urged the Government and both sides of industry to bury their differences and formulate a new long-term industrial policy before politicians became embroiled in the run up to the next General Election.

There was now only a brief opportunity for some agreed approach on the requirements for industrial success, he said, and all concerned must seek to distance industry from the party political process.

"We cannot afford to see our industrial problems continue to be exacerbated as they have been since the war by dogma and ignorance. Every government should have the health and competitiveness of productive industry — public and private, manufacturing and services — as the explicit criterion against which both macro and micro economic policy are measured."

Mr Chandler, speaking less than two weeks before the Chancellor's Budget statement, said that neither of the two opposing economic arguments of deflation and reflection were appropriate to the very complex set of causes that underlay Britain's problems. Neither touched the fundamentals of the country's long-term lack of competitiveness — inadequate education, training, investment, mamagement performance and work practices.

"Industry itself is traditionally and damagingly inarticulate in intellectual debate in its own cause. The battlefield is predominantly held by warring economists hurling sophisticated missiles, little understood by the man in the street, punctuated by the occasional recantation."

Mr Chandler, addressing the Association of Colleges of Further and Higher Education, said the greatest untapped potential in the country lay in the involvement, participation and creation of a sense of identity of interest by individuals in the company for which they worked.

LME authorities step in as tin prices tumble

By Michael Prest

Tin prices unexpectedly tumbled on the second day of the feared market squeeze. Cash tin fell by £775 to £7,320 a tonne, while three months metal was £310 lower at £7,385, giving the first contango since November.

Dealers were largely at a loss to explain why the fall had occurred so rapidly, but the London Metal Exchange authorities, whose activity behind the scenes has apparently done much to avert the squeeze which might have resulted from heavy buying since last July, were quick to step in.

Mr Michael Brown, chairman of the LME committee, said that tin trading appeared to have returned to a more orderly basis. Members will be asked to give details of their tin positions on March 5, to be returned to the chairman by March 8. If nothing untoward is revealed, Mr Brown said, the £120 a tonne maximum premium may be abolished on March 11.

In fact, little or no premium was paid yesterday by traders, who were able to cover their positions as the price collapsed. Traders acknowledge that the LME's intervention was important in calming the market but they also point out that the purposes and identity of the operator who has dominated the market remain a mystery.

Europe agrees its MFA strategy

From Ian Murray
Brussels, Feb 25

European trade ministers reached agreement today on an intricate textile import package, which will regulate the flow of cloth, yarn and clothing from cheap manufacturers into the EEC.

Settlement means that the European Commission will be authorised to go ahead and negotiate the 28 bilateral agreements with the main producers. Had it proved impossible the EEC intended to pull out of the Multi-Fibre Arrangement (MFA), which controls 80 per cent of the world's textile trade.

Today's council was able to agree the wording of a new EEC regulation to control the way manufacturers in member states export their part-finished products for completion in factories where labour costs are lower.

This practice, known as "outward processing", is widely used in West Germany.

The regulation has been argued out for three years but the urgency of approving it seems today to have eventually filtered through to the ministers.

It defines "outward processing" and sets out how the trade can be managed.

Having worked out the regulation the ministers were then able to begin work on finding ways to define what the global ceiling of imports should be. France and Italy were particularly keen to see these ceilings set as low as possible.

Part of the agreed formula was that there should be a 10 per cent cut in imports from three of the four dominant producers — Taiwan, South Korea and Macau.

Britain succeeded in pleading that the fourth dominant producer, Hongkong, was a special case since it maintained an open market. In consequence the commission has been authorized to negotiate with Hongkong on the basis that its quota would not need to be cut at all.

Overall the ministers were prepared to agree no more than a 1 per cent total increase in imports per year from the MFA countries on the 1982 figure.

A major difficulty in past months in reaching an agreement has been in making provisions in the final wording which would allow West Germany to go through the agreed ceilings on its "outward processing" products.

Agreement means it is now possible to approve ratification of the Multi-Fibre Arrangement worked out last December.

Brian Harris

Amersham International employee inspects a pure solution for particles of dust through a polarizing screen.

Amersham's diagnosis for success

By Clive Cookson, Technology Correspondent

Amersham International, the stock that every investor wants to put his money into, is the only public company in the world whose main business is based on radioactive isotopes.

It makes isotopes for virtually every non-military application, from diagnosing disease to triggering nuclear reactors.

An isotope is an artificial chemical element produced by bombarding non-radioactive material with particles at very high energy. It gives off radiation, which can be used either to trace a compound through the human body or to cause reactions — for example destroying cancer cells.

The main application for Amersham's isotopes is in medicine. Half are used directly for health care and another quarter are for medical research.

Diagnosis is the most important field. Amersham manufactures radiopharmaceuticals that are given to the patient by mouth or injection. Their distribution in the body can them be monitored by a gamma camera which picks up the radiation they give off.

However, the fastest growing diagnostic market is for clinical testing kits, which involve no direct application of radioactivity to the patient.

Amersham uses two nuclear reactors at Harwell, Dido and Pluto, to make most of its isotopes. The non-radioactive target material is bombarded with neutrons in the reactor, and some atoms are converted to the new radioactive isotope. A lot of very intricate separation and chemical synthesis is then required before the pure product can be shipped

"If we cannot make the isotope efficiently in a reactor, we use a cyclotron and fire charged particles at a target," Dr Stuart Burgess said. The company is bringing into operation a new, powerful cyclotron.



BUSINESS NEWS/COMPANIES AND MARKET REPORTS

Cider-makers' cheer. . . shareholders' perks

Lower duty brings in the drinkers

The brewers have got their backs against the bar-room wall. Figures released yesterday from the Brewers' Society forecast a 2 to 3 per cent decline in beer sales for 1982. (Drew Johnston writes).

Consumption has been falling since 1979 when Britain's drinkers downed 32m pints a day. In 1981 this fell to 30.5m and the forecast for 1982 is 29.5m.

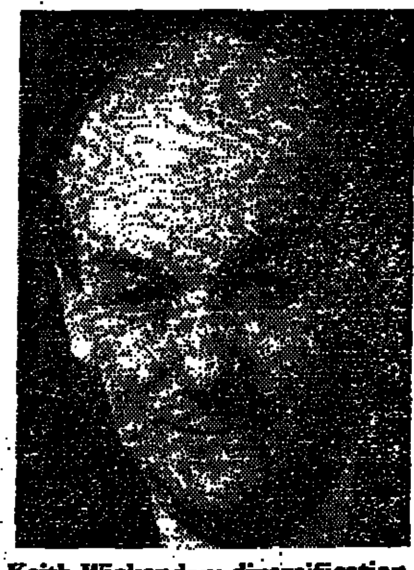
Mr Derek Palmer, chairman of the society and chairman of Bass, blamed tax duty and value-added tax for the fall, which he said had increased by 96 per cent in 2½ years.

The drop in sales is forcing brewers to move into other consumer-related products, such as food and leisure.

Analysts rule out a round of takeovers and mergers within the industry. The fall in beer consumption is giving a boost to cider. Years of advertising the product may finally be paying off for the cider makers.

But lower duty on cider — 4p a pint against 12½p on a pint of beer — has given recession-hit drinkers an excuse to switch from beer. So H. P. Bulmer and Merrydown are being chased by investors.

Hongkong's stock markets took little notice of Financial Secretary Mr John Bembridge's maiden budget. Wall Street's interest rates dominate the colony, leaving local investments flat. Once those fall, attention will refocus on inflation. Scrapping the 15 per cent withholding tax on foreign currency deposits could encourage fund raising to be done rather than merely booked in Hongkong.



Keith Wickenden: diversification

How to travel on the cheap

Demand for airline seats may have slumped, but the ferry companies still face stiff competition from the airlines in the holiday travel market. (Drew Johnston writes)

This is one reason why several ferry companies offer generous travel concessions to shareholders.

Companies which give this useful perk are P and O, European Ferries, DFDS Danish Seaways, Isle of Man Steam Packet and the quoted company with the longest name in the London market, Southampton, Isle of Wight and South of England Royal Steam Packet Comapny.

As the table shows European Ferries gives discounts up to 50 per cent on its services to France. But to qualify this summer your name had to be on that short register on February 1.

P and O also sails to France, and offers travel discounts as soon as the shareholdr appears on the company reggister. According to many analysts, there are also good investment reasons for buying the company's shares.

"The prospective dividend yield is around 9.2 per cent, which is attractive," a leading shipping sector analyst said yesterday.

Profits recovered in the second half of 1981 and there is excitement in the shipping world over the enormous estimated savings in operating costs which its recently announced Finnish-built liner will achieve.

P and O's share price is also strong on constant rumours of a takeover bid from the Far East.

European Ferries, yesterday announced its plan to buy out the share of its partner, Mormaco, in their 22 million square foot property dvelopment in Denver, Colorado. Profits from the project will contribute substantially to the 1982 figures.

The 1981 figures, due in May, are expected to be poor, but the market thinks the shares are a good recovery buy. Estimates of the 1981 profit performance average around £18m pretax, against £30.4m in 1980. Gross dividend yield is expected to be 5.4 per cent, with the earnings ratio about 17.

But unde Keith Wickenden, its entrepreneurial chairman, the market is looking for the company to reap the benefits of diversification in 1982. Pretax profit forecasts for 1982 are pitched at anything between £22m and more than £30m.

DFDS Danish Seaways is to consider its position on cheap fares for shareholders at a board meeting in April. Scandinavian specialists at stockbrokers Vickers da Costa rate the shares a buy, despite the possible withdrawal of its cheap-fares-for-shareholders policy.

Shares in the two regional ferry companies, Southampton and Isle of Man, are not particularly active.

	P&O	IofM	So'ton	Euro Ferr	DFDS
Discount (per cent)	30-50	50	50-100	25-50	25
Min s'holding	200 def or 500 pref	250 ord	2,400 ord	300	1 (4 classes of share)
Discount applies	on reg	on reg at Feb 27	on reg	on reg at Feb 1	(Concessions & up for review April 15)

Reaping the Red harvest

Russia-watchers in commodity markets believe the Russians have enough revenue to buy present grain needs. Perhaps gold, platinum and gas oil can stop reeling after the succession of Soviet sales this winter to raise cash. (Sally White writes).

"Russia bought a record amount of around 41 million tons. They need only about another 2 tons. They will probably pick it up from a variety of origins, including Australia. We think the grain markets will be flat. Mr Mike Hinebaugh of Conti-Committee, offshoot of United States Continental Grain, said.

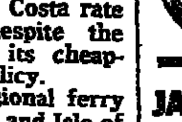
Next deadline commodity markets await, for guesses for this year's harvests in May. Three years in succession were bad, a fourth is unlikely. Given social unrest in Comecon, Moscow is under pressure to supply food to member countries. Another bad harvest will drive Soviet Union to the markets again.

Bearish sentiment

Sentiment in the metals markets is bearish. Yesterday's *Annual Economic Review of the Metal Markets* from Hargreaves & Williamson, metals analysts and investment advisors, will not relieve the gloom (Michael Prest writes).

The report says no metal looks a safe bet, some like tin are positively dangerous, and only political crises could jerk the markets out of depression this year.

INTERNATIONAL



JAPAN

Japan has hit back at the United States for renewing pressure on Tokyo for additional trade concessions. Mr Kiichi Miyazawa, chief cabinet secretary and official spokesman, said the Japanese Government doubted whether the United States knew the rules of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. "That is why they have introduced reciprocity legislation that could send us back to the 1930s", he said.

Meanwhile, Mr Zenko Suzuki, the Prime Minister, has called a meeting of his cabinet council next week to discuss the issue. A Japanese trade mission to the United States arrives back home on Saturday.

UNITED STATES

United States car sales in mid-February were rather better because of rebates, but were still down on the same period a year ago.

The five big American car makers sold 167,295 cars between February 11 and 20, down 1.4 per cent from 169,614 in mid-February of 1981. Nevertheless, it was the fifteenth consecutive 10-day period in which sales failed to match year earlier levels.

MALAYSIA

The International Natural Rubber Organization will hold a special meeting in Kuala Lumpur on March 5 and 6 to discuss the European Community's request for an extension of the deadline for ratification of the International Natural Rubber Agreement. Sixteen consuming countries have ratified the agreement but Belgian and Italian ratification is awaited.

CHINA

The first contracts for oil exploration off China's shores are likely to be signed with foreign oil companies in the first quarter of 1983, according to Mr Melvin Searls, commercial counsellor at the United States Embassy in Peking.

AUSTRALIA

De Beers' diamonds selling arm, the Central Selling Organisation, is the only group with a capacity to handle the quantity of diamonds expected from the Argyle deposit in North-West Australia, according to Mr Doug Anthony, the Australian Trade Minister.

BIDS AND DEALS

BICC has agreed in principle to purchase for £1.6m cash a 25 per cent interest in Lamitref Aluminium, a Belgian aluminium rod producer. The effect of the investment will be to secure for BICC, on beneficial terms, supplies of aluminium alloy rod for the manufacture of overhead line conductors and power cables.

Readicut International has sold the businesses of Shaw Polythene, Shaw Readipak and Snapples for about £600,000 in cash payable in respect of stocks and trademarks.

Kew House Retail, the fresh food retailing business based in Merseyside, has made an acquisition which makes it the largest independent fresh food business in the country.

The private Kew House has bought the chain of 32 outlets of Sealand Food Holdings, based in Yorkshire, for an undisclosed sum. The group now has 82 retail shops, spread from Dundee to Plymouth, and a workforce of 1,000. There are plans for a further six new openings this year.

Mr John Craig and Mr John Dawson, joint managing directors, say the move has doubled the group's size and turnover. Apart from its retailing business, Sealand also manufactures sausages, pies and cooked meats under the Molly Maid brand.

The group, which has no plans to go public, sees this as its first step toward establishing itself as a national fresh food company. Present exposure is weak in the south east and Midlands, but growth is expected in these areas.

LATEST RESULTS

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Amber Day (I)	30.2(15.02)	0.11(0.16)	0.07(0.12)	—(0.9)	—	—(0.9)
Cardinal Inv. (F)	—(—)	1.21(1.16)	5.12(4.9)	3.3(2.85)	1/4	4.95(4.5)
Footwear Industry (I)	4.05(5.79)	0.3(0.25)	4.2(3.2)	1.5(1.5)	—	—(5.04)
ICI (F)	6,581(5,715)	335(284)	32.3(22.1)	10(5)	2/4	19(17)
Child Health (F)	—(—)	0.009(0.068d)	—(—)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Plessey (9mths)	673.9(603)	78.7(60.6)	20.59(16.75)	3.5(3.2)	1/7	—(7.63)
U U Textiles (I)	2.5(2.1)	0.3c(0.24)	1.28c(1.05)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Ramar Textiles (I)	6.95(6.53)	0.1(0.14c)	—(—)	—(—)	—	—(0.31)
Ratcliffs (GB) (F)	—(—)	0.82a(0.095b)	36(—)	1.2(0.7)	1/5	2(1.5)
Rowntree (F)	688(629.8)	40.2(31.4)	21.6(20.3)	5.3(4.75)	—	8(7.25)
Westwood Dawes (F)	1.2(2.45)	0.16c(—)	6.57c(1.13)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Ward Hldgs. (F)	12.9(12.81)	1.22(1.58)	12.4(16.6)	3(3)	2/4	4.2(4.2)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. a=Profit after tax; b=Loss after tax; c=Loss; d=11 months.

PEOPLE

Neill Scott's ticket to efficiency

Neill Scott, six foot and 17 stone, swims to keep down his weight, but presumably puts it on again playing championship bridge. Neill will add a touch of much needed solidity next Wednesday to an unreliable looking Unlisted Securities Market, the stock exchanges's twilight market for up and coming companies whose pedigree is a bit short.

This USM has had its reputation tarnished by the mishaps of American Communications Industries and Euroflame, to name but two. Scott's company, Owners Abroad, took the unusual step when it went public in January of actually warranting the profits it is about to announce.

As if the accidents to Euroflame and ACI were not enough, anything to do with aircraft now reeks of Laker. But Owners is really a travel agency cum air broker. It books seats on planes rather than buy or borrow them, and Laker's crash steered customers Neill Scott's way.

Beer gets a new advocate



Alan Tilbury

What is the missing ingredient the brewers need in their trade association? Sadly, a long experience in the corridors of power. Leaving the industry is Ronald Matthews, who joined the Brewers' Society as a 15-shillings-a-week office boy in 1933. He is retiring as secretary to be replaced by Alan Tilbury. Reflecting the need to fight off the EEC's ideas of what makes a good pint, as well as persuading port-drinking ministers that beer is already taxed enough, Mr Tilbury has been hired because of his legal knowhow. He was once Attorney-General of Bechuanaland/Botswana.

Something, soon will be done about the plight of the downtrodden engineer who has for so long been ignored as a candidate for the boardroom in preference to those equipped with a "real" education. A new company called Gaming Executives Ltd. has been set up by an ex-manager of Rolls-Royce, Ralph Laing (20 years in management) to offer to the production manager and the engineer the chance to become top dog — for a day. Experience, claims Executive Gaming, which takes five or six years of normal working to assimilate can be compressed into a few days.

Ken Baker's pet Forum

A funny thing happened to Kenneth Baker on the way to the Forum yesterday: he found a computer there.

Baker is the Minister for Information Technology and the Forum is the name of the library on theground floor of the Institute of Directors' club in Pall Mall.

Baker, a member of the nearby Atheneum and Carlton, was there for that unlikely addition to clubland, an ICL 2904 computer. Now, IoD members in town can not only lounge in the club's armchairs but feed into the computer their firms' figures and get advice on how to keep out of the red.

John Chandler is director of planning at Reed International, owners of the Daily Mirror for whom Cassandra, the late Sir William Connor used to write.

Chandler is a bit of a Cassandra himself, but he does his doomsaying not in the pop press but in heavyweight books, among them Techniques of Scenario Planning (with Reed economist Paul Cockle), just out from McGraw-Hill.

Peter Wainwright

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Sir Peter Matthews, chairman of Vickers has been elected president of the Engineering Employers' Federation. Also elected were two new vice-presidents: Mr Allen Greenwood, deputy chairman of British Aerospace; and Mr Duncan McDonald, chairman of Northern Engineering Industries.

Mr Dennis Adams, Mr Ronald Bessell, Mr Douglas Bull, Mr Ian Cox, Mr Amir Eilon, Mr Bernard Jolles, Mr John Kibble, Mr Paul Manley, Mr Terence Simonian and Mr Nigel Tapley have been appointed directors of Samuel Montagu International.

Mr John Cowland, Mr Frank Ellis and Mr Tom Niccum have been appointed directors of 3M United Kingdom.

America's car industry is making huge losses. Bailey Morris reports

Why Detroit is praying for an economic upturn

Washington

Like dominoes, American car companies are falling prey to the continuing American recession, reporting huge losses like the one announced this week by the Chrysler Corporation, weakest of Detroit's "big three" firms.

For months, Wall Street analysts have been talking of "depression-like conditions" in the industry, correctly predicting that the Ford Motor Company, which reported a $1,060m (£576m) loss last week, would have devastating results and that Chrysler would report yet another annual loss in the region of $500m.

In the event Chrysler's fourth quarter results were somewhat better than expected (a loss of $66m compared with $235m in the comparable period in 1980) and the full year loss was fractionally short of predictions at $476m. But that is cold comfort for Chrysler: losses are running at about twice the level the company had set itself as a target.

Even General Motors, which earned a modest profit of more than $300m in 1981, lost money on its primary, car-making business last year.

The industry is in very bad shape and experts expect the dismal conditions to continue into the second quarter of this year.

Sales volume in the industry has been down by as much as 40 per cent some months, and prices are too high (averaging $10,000 a car). Consumers are simply refusing to buy.

There are growing fears both in Congress and on Wall Street that Chrysler may not be able to survive another year like 1981.

"I don't think Chrysler can last much more than a year, if conditions like these continue", says a veteran Detroit-based car industry analyst.

Despite impressive gains made by Chrysler last year, in which it lopped more than two-thirds off 1980's record loss of $1,700m, the company is still in a very tight cash-flow position.

Last week, for example, it sold off its last big, profitable unit — a defence subsidiary which makes tanks for the American Government — to General Dynamics Corporation for nearly $350m. This, coupled with cash in the bank amounting to more than $400m, gives the company reserves of about $750m which may appear substantial but is not when it is realized that Chrysler must have $250m on hand each Friday just to meet its payroll and expenses.

After two consecutive years of poor sales, Chrysler is living a hand-to-mouth existence, Ford is living off its assets, and General Motors is cutting back sharply.

If high interest rates persist and car sales in North America continue to slump, the worst scenario outlined by analysts is that Chrysler will be forced into bankruptcy; Ford will suspend North American car operations and concentrate on its profitable overseas units; and General Motors will emerge as the surviving domestic giant.

The Reagan Administration has made it very clear that this time there would be no government bail-out in the form of loan guarantees and other types of cash assistance.

But no one really expects the worst to occur. To prevent it from happening, both Chrysler and Ford have been cutting costs substantially in the past year by trimming their labour forces and closing down unprofitable plants.

Since 1979, Chrysler has cut its labour force in half, from a high of 140,000 in the good, car-selling years to about 70,000 now. Ford has closed five plants and laid off one-third of its workforce which now stands at about 100,000.

In addition, both Chrysler and Ford have managed to negotiate remarkable concessions with the United Auto Workers (UAW) who have agreed to cuts in wages and benefits in return for job guarantees. These deals, together with the cutbacks, should help to make Chrysler and Ford a good deal more efficient.

General Motors, the only major company which has not reached agreement with the union, will have to make big cuts in the months ahead.

Officials at General Motors announced four plant closures after talks with the UAW were broken off because union members refused to concede the sizable "givebacks" in wage and benefit concessions requested by the company.

Company officials say more plant closures are probable if the economy fails to pick up and an agreement with the union is not reached before the present contract expires on September 15.

Rumours that GM is prepared to close as many as 12 additional plants between now and September have been circulating on Wall Street and this same figure was mentioned in a recent article on the industry in *Business Week* magazine.

There are no estimates of how many workers these closures would affect but industry analysts say that each time an assembly plant is closed, it costs about 8,000 jobs.

Despite all the cost-cutting efforts, the profitability of the car makers is not expected to improve markedly until volume rises substantially. This will not happen until the economy improves and the major companies find ways of rekindling public interest in their products.

Even in 1978 — the last good year for domestic companies when they produced more than 9.1m cars — consumers were beginning to display a decided lack of enthusiasm for American-made cars.

This trend has continued as consumers put off car purchases in record numbers, partly because of economic conditions and partly because "they don't like the cars", says an analyst at stockbrokers Bache, Halsey, Stuart, Shields.

Chrysler, with its popular K-Cars, was the only American car maker to show an increase in unit sales in 1981, thus moving its share of the domestic market up to 11.8 per cent from 10 per cent in 1980.

The General Motors J-Cars, did badly because they were both "too expensive and too slow for an American-made vehicle", the Bache analyst says.

In contrast to the good years, when domestic companies made almost 10 million cars a year, volume last year dropped to 6.2 million cars and in the first quarter of this year, the producion rate was even lower.

Given the massive investment by the companies in modernized production facilities, these low volumes cannot be tolerated. Altogether, the big three companies will spend an estimated $85,000m to upgrade facilities during the period from 1979 to 1985.

Mr Lee Iacocca, chairman of Chrysler, says his company has done everything it can to stimulate sales and the next step is up to the Government.

"At some point, the Federal Government is going to have to face up to the very serious problems of economic stagnation in this country. In the short term, it is going to have to get some people back buying cars, trucks and houses," Mr Iacocca said.

"The Government ought to get into the rebate business on its own, in the form of a $1,500 investment tax credit for the purchase of a new, fuel-efficient car or truck," Mr Iacocca said.

He believes this could save the industry by increasing sales an estimated 1 million units a year and putting more than 250,000 people back to work.

Mr Lee Iacocca, Chrysler chairman — The K-Car helped boost sales in 1981, but the company is still in deep financial trouble.

HOW SALES HAVE FALLEN

	1978	1979	1980	1981
American Motors	170,739	162,057	149,438	136,682
Chrysler	1,146,258	949,598	660,017	729,873
Ford Motor	2,582,702	2,140,368	1,475,232	1,380,600
General Motors	5,385,282	4,917,911	4,116,482	3,796,696

Domestic car sales (excluding imports) in units

US and Japan: the chips are down



Superchip: each semiconductor like the one above can, within a second, process the amount of information in 150 full-length books. It is American company Hewlett-Packard's new 32-bit microprocessor, containing up to 660,000 transistors on each quarter-inch square of silicon. It is wired to a copper-cored computer board

TECHNOLOGY: SEMICONDUCTORS

By Clive Cookson

Within the last year the American semiconductor industry has lost the race with the Japanese to mass-produce the latest generation of memory chips. That defeat, the industry's first major humiliation by Japan, has led many Americans to write off the chip as yet another important product that will be supplied from the other side of the Pacific.

To keep a sense of perspective, however, it is important to remember that the Japanese firms have only dominated one sector of the semiconductor industry: they are taking about 70 per cent of the 64k RAM (random access memory) chips sold on the open world market. Admittedly, it is the most competitive segment, and one where comparisons are most easily made, but it is far from the whole story.

The chip — an integrated electronic circuit written onto a wafer of silicon — comes in two main categories. One is the memory chip, which stores information. The other is the microprocessor, which processes information. The former may be falling into Japanese hands, but the leading edge of microprocessor technology is still very much American territory.

At this month's International Solid State Circuits Conference in San Francisco, the industry's main annual showcase, several American companies announced morale-boosting advances in microprocessor technology. Most spectacular is Hewlett-Packard's success in cramming 660,000 transistors on to a silicon chip — comfortably beating previous records for dense packing.

Hewlett-Packard is putting into production a set of six such "superchips", which provide three to eight times the circuit density of other commercially available processors. Together they form the nucleus of a minicomputer which the company is expected to announce next year. It is likely to offer the performance of a big mainframe computer, and Hewlett-Packard may be the first company whose salesmen can honestly offer "a mainframe for your office desk".

Circuits on the new Hewlett-Packard chips are one micron (a millionth of a metre) wide. That must take the conventional method of making chips — photographing the circuitry on to the silicon and then etching it out chemically — to its ultimate limit.

Semiconductor engineers strive to pack their integrated circuits closer and closer together because the system can perform faster if the electric signals have less distance to travel. But they have to pay a design penalty for high power density, by making special arrangements to carry away the heat generated; Hewlett-Packard has solved the problem by mounting the chips directly on to a copper-cored cooling board.

The Hewlett-Packard chips are in the category known as 32-bit microprocessors. That means that they deal with 32 bits (binary units) of information at a time, and are therefore far quicker and more powerful than the 16-bit and 8-bit microprocessors that the computer industry relies on now.

Main rival to Hewlett-Packard in the 32-bit microprocessor field is the American semiconductor company Intel, which announced a set of three 32-bit chips last year. Intel's devices are less impressive than Hewlett-Packard's in terms of density — figures to compare performances are not available — and they have not yet been put on the open market. The Japanese industry has not come up with a similar device so far.

The leading powers in the 16-bit microprocessor market are the American trio of Intel, Motorola and Texas Instruments. All are pushing the technology ahead rapidly, presenting the Japanese with a moving target that will be hard to shoot down.

Texas Instruments is steadily announcing members of its new TMS 99000 family of "third generation" 16-bit microprocessors, claimed to be the fastest in the world. The company's strategy will be to sell them hard for application outside the electronics industry. The chips would be in the front line of the campaign to automate production in the traditional heavy industries.

On top of its leading position in general-purpose microprocessors, Texas Instruments is committing considerable resources to the development of special chips for telecommunications — a market growing by 20 per cent a year and projected to reach £5,500 million by 1991. In San Francisco this month, the company announced a new series of signal processors which can convert signals from the digital (one-off) language of computers to the analogue (smooth wave) form of the human voice. Potential applications include speech recognition and synthesis.

Even in memory chips the Japanese lead is not as clear cut as some United States commentators have made out. For the American firms that are thought to be furthest ahead are the twin giants of information technology, IBM and AT&T. They have been mass-producing 64k RAM chips for use in their own products — computers and telecommunications equipment — for about three years. But they do not sell chips on the open market and therefore do not show up in the world semiconductor trade statistics.

Both companies are ready to make the next four-fold leap in chip storage capacity. AT&T's manufacturing subsidiary, Western Electric, will start making a 256k RAM later this year, and IBM is apparently set to produce a 288k RAM. But, again, both corporations are likely to use their whole production in-house.

The only American company that is ready to go for the 256k market is Motorola, which seems to be emerging as the most successful of the struggling United States "merchant" semiconductor manufacturers. Motorola is also the only American firm to have challenged the Japanese successfully in the 64k market, where it has 20 per cent of world sales.

Inmos, Britain's state-funded attempt to break into semiconductor mass-production, is getting ready to make 64k RAM chips this summer at its new factory in Newport, South Wales. It is late into a market where prices have plunged to as low as £2 for a chip that can store the same quantity of information as this article, but Inmos executives still hope that their chips will offer a superior performance

The 64k RAM market has great growth potential for two or three years before the 256k chips come on stream in large numbers. And the Japanese cannot afford to increase their 70 per cent share, even if they could, because they dare not provoke the United States into curbing imports of semiconductors; protectionist noises are now being heard across the Atlantic, with the Department of Defence muttering about a threat to national security from Japan's penetration of the memory chip market. If import controls are introduced, Inmos need not suffer, because it has a factory in Colorado in which to manufacture behind the barrier.

In the long term, Inmos's fortunes may rest on a new type of chip, the "transputer", which the company plans to introduce in 1984. More than any other semiconductor, it will combine the functions of the two types of chip, microprocessor and memory, in a single piece of silicon. That really will be a "computer on a chip"

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	13½%
Barclays	13½%
BCCI	14%
Consolidated Crds	14%
C. Hoare & Co	*13½%
Lloyds Bank	13½%
Midland Bank	13½%
Nat Westminster	13½%
TSB	13½%
Williams & Glyn's	13½%

* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000 11%, £10,000 up to £50,000 11¾%, £50,000 and over 12¼%.

Business Editor

ICI's note of caution

The mood at Millbank has changed appreciably from a year ago when ICI seemed to be making almost a political point about Government economic strategy by talking gloomily about the trading outlook and cutting the dividend for the first time in 40 years.

At least there is now an underlying confidence that the group has taken itself in hand by reshaping the business to cope with a changed trading environment in the 1980s and 1990s. But the tone from yesterday's statement makes it clear that ICI expects to get little help from the marketplace.

What ICI, and for that matter the rest of the world chemical industry, is having to adjust to is much slower rates of growth. Even if the industry could match its earlier expansion of around twice the increase of gross national product, it would still be left with acres of overcapacity.

Even now there are about 30 per cent more ethylene plants than required, so what ICI was warning yesterday was not to expect the chemical cycle to be repeated this time with a sharp pick up to a peak sometime in 1983. The world is not going to behave like that any more for the chemical industry.

Meanwhile, ICI's final quarter proved as robust as outsiders expected with fourth quarter pre-tax profits up to £114m, against £86m in the stronger-than-expected third quarter and last year's very depressed £7m. Confusing the picture, however, was a £20m currency bonus on export debts arising in earlier quarters.

There are at least two elements in the pre-tax profits recovery from £284m to £335m for the full year. One is simply the absence of the previous year's configuration of adverse circumstances — world recession, high interests rates, strong sterling and cost pressures. Some of those factors are still hurting ICI.

The recession is not helping with chemical volume in the fourth quarter only 2 per cent ahead. Weakness in Britain is being compensated by a stronger showing in Western Europe. The stirling-Deutschemark rate is not proving so injurious and an export business losing £200m the previous year scraped back into the black in 1981.

ICI has also taken steps to put its house in order with the restructuring last year, which cost the group another £50m, from overall fixed costs. And the capital spending programme has been cut from £724m to £411m which together with lower working capital needs has allowed the group to live within its cash flow.

Certainly there has been no deterioration in the balance sheet to suggest any money- raising moves except if the group wants to expand in the United States as the new chairman appears to be thinking.

Perhaps the best measure of ICI's confidence comes in the dividend where the increases in the gross distribution from from 24.3p to 27.1p is at the top end of expectations, particularly when it is uncovered on current cost figures. The near 12½ per cent yield at 328p suggests more scope for the shares after this week's setback with profits heading back towards £500m this year and full dividend restoration.

Insurance

First report

The first report of the Insurance Ombudsman confirms what everyone outside the insurance industry (and some within) knew to be the case — that there is a need for an impartial arbitration service to deal with the public's insurance complaints.

During the first nine months of operation the Ombudsman received more than 1,500 enquiries though only 441 concerned the 44 member companies of the Ombudsman's Bureau, set up on the initiative of three of the big insurers, General Accident, Guardian Royal Exchange and Legal and General.

Predictably, household insurance provoked the greatest number of complaints closely followed by motor insurance. In 59 cases the insurance company concerned improved its original offer to the policyholder.

But the overall impression is that the largest number of complaints arise because policyholders either do not understand their policies, do not read them, or have been misled. "I am disturbed by the number of people who tell me that because they do not understand forms, or cannot read very well, they let someone else fill in the details on their proposal form and then sign without checking it," commented Ombudsman James Haswell.

The report has received an enthusiastic welcome from the British Insurance Brokers Association. The association points out that the Ombudsman received more than twice as many enquiries about non-member companies as about member companies, which lends additional support to the statement by Reginald Eyre, MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Insurance Affairs, who expressed the hope that the insurance industry would consider the advantages to the consumer of an industry-wide complaints procedure.

The Over-the-Counter Market

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div (p)	Yld %	P/E Actual	P/E Fully Taxed
124	100	ABI Hldgs 10% CULS	124	—	10.0	8.1	—	—
75	62	Airsprung Group	70	—	4.7	6.7	11.1	15.4
51	33	Armitage & Rhodes	45	—	4.3	9.6	3.8	8.5
205	187	Bardon Hill	201	—	9.7	4.8	9.8	11.9
104	70	Deborah Services	70xd	—	6.0	8.6	3.5	6.6
131	97	Frank Horsell	131	—	6.4	4.9	11.8	24.3
83	39	Frederick Parker	83	—	6.4	7.7	4.2	8.1
78	46	George Blair	51	—	—	—	—	—
102	93	Ind. Pref. Castings	95	—	7.3	7.7	6.8	10.3
106	100	Isis Conv Pref	106	—	15.7	14.8	—	—
113	94	Jackson Group	96	—	7.0	7.3	3.0	6.8
130	108	James Burrough	112	—	8.7	7.8	8.2	10.3
334	250	Robert Jenkins	250	—	31.3	12.5	3.5	8.8
59	51	Scruttons "A"	59	—	5.3	9.0	9.1	8.4
222	160	Torday & Carlisle	160	—	10.7	6.7	5.1	9.5
15	10	Twinlock Ord	13½	—	—	—	—	—
80	66	Twinlock 15% ULS	78	—	15.0	19.2	—	—
44	25	Unilock Holdings	25	—	3.0	12.0	4.5	7.6
103	73	Walter Alexander	76	—	6.4	8.4	5.0	8.8
263	212	W. S. Yeates	228	—	13.1	5.7	4.3	8.8

Prices now available on Prestel page 48146

BUSINESS NEWS

ROWNTREE

Profit rise reinforces Huntley bid

Rowntree Mackintosh added fuel to its £72.6m bid for Huntley and Palmer yesterday with pretax profits for last year showing a 28 per cent rise to £40.6m.

Although profits were below forecasts it was enough to see Huntley's share price drop 2p to 105p, which matches the price placed on the group by Rowntree's offer, a mix of cash and shares. Rowntree's shares, down at first 2p at 164p, recovered to 168p.

The figures for the year to January 2, based on management estimates and unaudited, have been brought forward to present with the offer document. A 10.3 per cent lift in the final gross dividend to 7.57p, making a total payment of 11.42p, is proposed and new shareholders, assuming the bid goes through, would rank for the final.

Rowntree, which has had a strategic investment for 10 years in Huntley and Palmer and owns 23.8 per cent of the equity, has been rejected by the Huntley board who describe the bid as "wholly inadequate and unwelcome".

Mr Kenneth Dixon, head of the chocolate group, said again the bid was not a defensive move prompted by Allied-Lyons building up its 4 per cent stake at the end of last year.

Nor, he said, did it conflict with Rowntree's plans for further expansion in the United States,, indicated at last year's £42m rights issue.

"We have been looking in the US but have not yet found the right profitable business. This bid does not stopo us looking," he said.

The main thrust of Rowntree's argument is that Huntley, with estimated profits of £7.5m for 1981 and total borrowings of £38m or gearing of 49 per cent, cannot afford to update plant and machinery and improve its competitiveness.

The merger, it says, would benefit Huntley in the long-term by providing the capital it needs.



Mr Kenneth Dixon, chairman Rowntree Mackintosh.

PLESSEY

30pc better

Plessey, the British electronics giant has announced a 30 per cent profits increase for the first nine months of the financial year to January 1, 1982, compared with the same period last year.

Pre-tax profits for the last quarter rose to £27.5m from £22m the previous year, bringing the nine-month total to £78.7m from £60.7m.

Telecommunications contributed substantially to the growth of the company, operating profits rising to £37m in the first nine months of the year compared with £29m last time.

Telecommunications provides the group with about half of its profits.

Aerospace and engineering increased their profits by 14 per cent, while microelectronics rose by 26 per cent.

Third quarter sales were £224.6m compared to the £204.3m level of the previous year, bringing the total for the nine months to £673.9m compared with £603m a year earlier.

Third quarter earnings per share were 7.17p, up from 6.59p and the nine-month earning per share level was 20.59p, compared with 16.75p the previous year interim dividend is 3.542p, up 10 per cent.

CHARTERHOUSE

Bid for CCP

Charterhouse Petroleum emerged yesterday as the bidder for CCP North Sea Associates, a small North Sea exploration investment company in which Mr Algy Cluff's Cluff Oil holds nearly 30 per cent of the shares.

CCP's shares, which are traded on the Unlisted Securities Market, were suspended last week at 145p pending details of the bid approach. Last night they rose to 185p.

The terms are that Charterhouse Petroleum is offering two of its own shares plus 50p in cash for each ordinary share in CCP. At last noght's closing price for Charterhouse shares of 71p, they value the bid at about £15 — or 192p a share.

Subject to shareholders' approval, Cluff Oil has undertaken to recommend the bid and will pledge its own 29.9 per cent interest to acceptance of the offer.

CCP's chief asset is a 6 per cent net production interest in the North Sea's Buchan field, operated by BP. It also has a 5 per cent interest in two other blocks in the Moray Firth, 12/28 and 20/8. Significantly Charterhouse Petroleum has interests in two neighbouring blocks to these, 20/2 and 21/7.

Cluff Oil will emerge, if the deal goes through, with between 3 and 7 per cent of the shares in Charterhouse Petroleum. The proceeds will help to finance Cluff's other explorations in the North Sea.

RENSON

Payout warning

Renson Goldfields Consolidated, the mining company formed last year from Consolidated Gold Fields' Australian interests, made a pretax loss of A$4.87m (£2.86m) in its first half year. An interim dividend of 5 cents has been declared, but Mr Max Roberts, RGC's chairman, warned that in the full year shareholders may not receive the 50 cents forecast at the time of the merger.

The company blames low metal prices, industrial disputes, and loss of production for results below those expected. The advantages of high tin prices were more than offset by industrial disputes, and the company warns that tin prices are falling again.

Output from Mount Lyell, the copper mine, fell because the mine plan dictated that lower grade ore be won. Mineral sand production suffered form depressed titanium prices. All the company's operations were hindered by the strength of the Australian dollar. Nevertheless, the directors expect the company to make a profit for the year as a whole.

UU

New chairman

The attempts to stop the decline quickly at UU Textiles, formerly Universal Underwear, have begun at the top.

On the way out is Mr Jeffery Dunn, Chairman, who was appointed in July last year after the resignation of Mr Richard Ratner, the former chairman who still holds about 60 per cent of the equity.

In his place is elected Mr Colin Chambers, the present finance director.

Meanwhile, the ladies and children's wear group of Lincoln has disclosed a sudden deterioration in half year figures from a profit of £24,000 into a loss of £29,000. Losses attributable to shareholders amount to £42,500 against £4,500, after taking in financing costs amounting to £31,700 compared with £48,300 for the corresponding period last year.

Once again shareholders are asked to forgo a dividend payment. The last was paid in 1975.

The group continues to blame pressure on margins which caused sales to fall from £2.5m to £2.1m. This, coupled with increased overheads and a shift to short term orders by several of the group's customers has impaired factory efficiency.

Nevertheless, the factory has been trading profitably since September and orders are between 50 and 60 per cent higher than during the comparable period last year.

As a result, the board feels confident that the group will return to profit in the second half which may be enough to eradicate the losses of the first six months. The shares rose 1p to 17p.

SPORT

FOOTBALL

Hull City in debt and up for sale

By Clive White

The legacy of an ambitious and successful past caught up with another football club yesterday. Hull City, with bank debts of £350,000 decided to admit defeat and called in a receiver. The club will be put up for sale, but hope to finish the season's programme.

Hull, whose weekly losses have risen to £9,000 a week, have been kept solvent only by the stubborn determination of one man, Christopher Needler, the chairman. He has written off an interest-free loan of £370,000 to reduce a bank overdraft of £700,000 and given a bank guarantee of £225,000. A local company, which is building a supermarket and sports complex at the ground, have also loaned £240,000 interest free. But Mr Needler finally decided enough is enough. He has called in Martin Spencer, the new financial director of Chelsea, who is also a partner in firm of chartered accountants.

Mr Spencer said that he would endeavour to re-structure the club on a sound financial basis so that it could be sold as a going concern. It will be advertised for sale in the Financial Times next Thursday.

"My job is to get as much as humanly possible for all classes of creditors and to try to keep the club going for the people of Hull," Mr Spencer said. "If the club could get crowds of between 6,000 and 7,000 there is a good chance that it could be reconstructed. It is up to the public to show that they want professional soccer." Hull have had only one league gate over 4,000 this season.

Last year their wage bill was £437,000 — £87,000 more than third division Bristol City who came within minutes of extinction three weeks ago, when eight of their highest paid players agreed to accept redundancy offers just before the deadline. Bristol City's weekly losses were only £4,000. Mr Needler has agreed to foot the wage bill until the end of the season.

Hull's problems can be traced back to an illustrious past and an outsized ambition. The Needler family took over the club after the Second World War and spent boldy in an attempt to hoist them into the first division. The potential was there and in those heady post-war years league attendances rose to 40,000, and over 55,000 came to watch Hull play Manchester United in an FA Cup tie in 1949.

But managers of the calibre of Major Frank Buckley, Raich Carter, Bob Brocklebank and Terry Neill failed to achieve that ultimate goal. In 1978 they were relegated from the second division. In recent years they first lured Billy Bremer to Boothferry Park as player-coach and then Mike Smith, the highly successful manager of Wales. By the end of the following season Hull had been relegated to the fourth division. They now stand ninth from the bottom.

All the players have been put up for sale and the PFA secretary Gordon Taylor said that some will be available on free transfers and others for a fee.

Another meeting will take place in Hull next Wednesday between the receiver, Hull directors and Mr Taylor. Ironically, Mr Needler, who is a member of the League management committee, gave a paper at last week's seminar of chairmen and secretaries in Solihull. It was entitled "Financing our Survival".



Christopher Needler: gave loan to clear overdraft

Wembley on level, through the railings

Going to Wem-bu-lee is an emotional as well as physical journey, as it is for all football fans. In our hearts, we are always on our way to Wembley every year, tra la, though few of us ever get there.

Oon my way to see England v Northern Ireland this week I strained for the first sight of those twin towers through the tube window. The Northern Ireland fans all around started by singing *Cockles and Muscles*, which is surely Dublin, then switched to *Danny Boy*. Most people joined in. That is one good thing about going to Wembley. The partisans are human beings, friends in sport. At a League match, you usually make a detour when you are confronted by any gang of fans, even those from your side.

Wembley is a mausoleum of our times, but a magnificent one, built to celebrate the greater glory of our wonderful Empire. It is one of 30 or so buildings, many of them equally magnificent, which were created for the 1924 exhibition. Only the Stadium remains. I always want to stand on those handsome steps and work out where all the other pavilions once were, but my companion said, "Hurry up, let's get a programme". What a Philistine.

The first Wembley match I saw was the 1966 World Cup final, which is a nice way to begin. I've bored the family ever since. I was there. But it was all so emotional that I feel very much as most of the players felt afterwards. It passed in a flash and I can hardly remember the details.

On Tuesday night we were on rather shaky wooden benches near the front, forced to peer through the iron railings. These were the cheapest seats and I had sent off for them two weeks before by filling in a form in an evening paper. You cannot expect a proper seat, not for £6.50 these days. Its the view most coaches and managers get, level with the play, which always strikes me as dopey. You can see only half the game.

But we were right among the paying fans, which is what most football reporters never experience, nor do the people who control the game such as directors. Their view of football is so isolated, seen entirely in the company of people like themselves. It would help them all, especially directors, to know what the majority think and feel.

England's first goal was so early and so quick that we were all a bit stunned, especially as it happened at the other side and our perspective was all wrong. The excitement faded rather quickly and it was strange to feel the crowd's discontent, even anger. There were groans whenever Watson of Foster touched the ball, though everyone perked up when Anderson or Sansom came forward. By half-time, everyone near me was rubbishing the entire team.

The man beside me, a QPR supporter, said he would rather watch QPR any time. A father and his son had come from Bournmouth and they started shouting for David Webb, the club manager, just for something to shout. There was a rather drunken gang of lads who apparantly played in the Pearl Assurance sixth team. they could hammer this lot, any time.

The most disturbing thing for me, as a Spurs fan, was to realize the dislike felt for Glen Hoddle. "Oh yes, another inch-perfect pass, Glen," an idiot behind me shouted every time Hoddle made a mistake. And he made several. I'm used to living my football kife surrounded by people who are Hoddle fans, so it was a salutary lesson. I have to admit that Hoddle did'nt fit in. He was redundant, with Wilkins at the back picking up the pieces and trying to reach the front men. Wilkins never passed to Hoddle once. The rotter.

The second half was more exciting and the crowd became happier, especially at the prospect of Cyrille Regis coming on, when we all spotted him warming up. Some England players do appear to have general crowd acceptance, even when they play for a rival club.

It ended happily for England, if not for Nothern Ireland, and the team left to some cheers, with unrest not far beneath the surface. Hoddle did get a goal, a tap-in, so I cheered loudly. His enemies all around had the last laugh when the scoreboard put his name up as Boddle.

Then it was the mad rush home to watch it all again on TV, which I did, even catching the first goal. This gives an extra dimension to every Wembley game, seeing what the experts have made of it. First of all, it appeared to be a full house The screen did not show those huge empty spaces.

Secondly, the TV gave few clues to the crowd's unrest. I listened hard for the booing I *knew* was there, but it was faded out or somehow lost. Hoddle appeared to play better than he had in real life. We only saw the bits he did quite well.

The interview with Ron Greenwood afterwards was largely gibberish I could not follow what he was on about. I wanted to know *why* he played Wilkins as a sweeper. Was he scared of Foster and Watson being swamped? Was it part of another tactic he was trying out? We should be told.

The big thing about paying your money is that we are all experts. We are all allowed to have our say, even those who are foolish enough to consider Hoddle one of the wonders of the age. Wem-bu-lee, Wem-bu-lee . . .

Hunter Davies

Scots gain sympathy if not result

By Norman Fox

Several World Cup team managers converged on the Luis Casanova stadium in Valencia on Wednesday night. Ron Greenwood, of England, Billy Bingham of Northern Ireland, Konstantin Beskov, of the Soviet Union, Enzo Bearzot, of Italy, and Guy Thys, from Belgium, were among them. All agreed that a 3-0 score for Spain against Scotland was outrageous misrepresentation.

Two penalties and an admittedly brilliant third goal from Gallego, five minutes from the end, overcame the Spanish crowd's increasing frustration. But, as Mr Greenwood said, the third goal which gave the score such a false impression was taken when the game was "over". The first penalty, which Rough saved before Victor successfully followed up, was slightly harsh and no team can claim true satisfaction when a crucial second goal also comes from a penalty.

There were no dramatic appeals against an inexperienced referee's penalty decisions, partly, no doubt, because the Scots realised that Spain's tactics of high speed breakaways were always likely to force defenders into hasty interventions. That, at least, was a lesson for Scotland to remember when they return to Spain for the World Cup later this year. McLeish, who gave away the first penalty, needs to show more forsight under pressure.

Generally, the match offered the fact-finding managers few guidelines for the World Cup If Spain are to follow Argentina and West Germany and be winning hosts, it will have to be on the wings of inspiration rather than superior ability. Apart from the vivid speed of Lopez-Ufarte and the menace of Quini, when he arrives as substitute, they were unimpressive. Without Zamora to guide them in midfield, they conceded that area to Souness and Hartford.

Brazil: busy, but unable to reproduce club form.

Scotland had no wings at all, and the enforced experimant clearly failed. Brazil often moved wide, but only in an effort to take defenders with him. Unhappily, his busy performance on a poor pitch was unfulfilled and his Ipswich colleague, Wark, was rarely seen looking for goals as he does for his club. Both must be in serious danger of being omitted from Scotlands' final selection.

Where Scotland succeeded was in their original approach. In the past, Scottish teams have tended to play away matches in much the same style as at home. In Valencia they were cool and unwound many sensible accurate passes.

Rufer opts for home fixture

Wellington New Zealand, Feb 25. — New Zealand World Cup star Wynton Rufer arrived home yesterday and said he would not return to Norwich City even if the British government gave him a work permit.

Rufer's application to stay in Britain and sign a professional contract with the Second Division club was turned down by the Home Office early this month.

He told reporters he was "bitterly disappointed" at his reception in Norwich. "Nobody seemed to know what was happening at the club, and with the odd exception they didn't seem to care," he said.

☐ What is claimed to be the world's largest artificial playing surface was opened by the Sports Council yesterday at Bisham Abbey. The pitch covers 11,000 square metres and cost more than £600,000. Southampton manager Lawrie McMenemy performed the opening ceremony.

☐ Nottingham Forest vice-chairman Fred Reacher denied yesterday that manager Brian Clough was to join Derby County. "Brian Clough will not be leaving the club" said Mr Reacher: "In fact, we are considering extending his present contract, which has 15 months to run."

☐ Aston Villa have full-back problems as they prepare for next week's european cup quarter-final against Dynamo Kiev. Villa have made an emergency application for a visa for Mark Jones, 20, who has yet to play in the first team and is now on standby for the trip to Simferopol in the Crimea.

Runcorn dig a glorious hole and worry their manager

By Paul Newman

Runcorn, currently non-League football's most successful side, tomorrow face one of the most difficult hurdles yet in their pursuit of honours in four competitions this season. The Alliance Premier League leaders make the short trip across Cheshire for a third round FA Trophy match against Northwich Victoria.

As well as aiming for the league title and Trophy, Runcorn also have their sights set on the Bob Lord Trophy — the Allliance League's own cup competition — and the Cheshire Senior Cup. They are through to the semi-finals in both, and their victory over Northwich just 10 days ago in the county competition will give them an imporant psychological advantage tomorrow.

Success, however, does have its problems. John Williams, Runcorn's manager, said yesterday: "To be honest we're left in too many competitions and we could be digging a hole for ourselves. We recently had to play four games in a week and lost two of them and I could see it was affecting our players. It would be no bad thing if we were knocked out of one of the cup competitions."

No Alliance club has ever won the FA Trophy, but the Alliance League's challenge looks paricularly strong this year. Eight of tomorrow's last 16 are from the Alliance, and seven of them — Altrincham, surprisingly, are the exception — are in their league's top nine places.

Last season's two Trophy finalists, Sutton United and Bishop's Stortford, both of the Isthmian League, are at home to Worcester City and Witton Albion respectively.

Witton, who beat Netherfield 6-0 in a Northern Premier League match on Tuesday, have hit form just in time for their first visit to the Hertfordshire club Bishop's Stortford, the Trophy holders, who have been struggling for consistency in the league this season, and lost 1-0 at home to Hitchin Town in midweek — a game in which they were without four injured players. Radford, the former Arsenal striker, Bradford and Brame should all return tomorrow, but Worrell is still recovering from broken ribs.

One Trophy tie tomorrow will evoke many memories of the now defunct FA Amateur Cup. Bishop Auckland, record 10 times winners of the Amateur Cup, travel to Wycombe Wanderers in a repeat of both a 1955 Amateur Cup semi-final and the 1957 final. Bishop Auckland won both matches.

The 1955 semi-final was played in front of 27,000 people at Doncaster, and the 1957 final, which was televised live, before a Wembley crowd of 90,000. Wycombe are hoping for a crowd of up to 5,000 — high by today's standards — for tomorrow's game.

Wycombe have invited all the players from the 1950s games to be their guests at Loakes Park tomorrow. John Goldsworthy, their secretary, said yesterday: "A lot of friendly rivalry built up between the two clubs, and we thought a reunion would be a good idea. One of our players has died, but I've been able to get in touch with all the others, and I understand four or five Bishop Auckland players will be coming down. In a way this reunion has almost taken over the game because it has brought back a lot of memories."

Wycombe have just one player, Davies, unavailable, but their opponents could be without several key men. Hills is suspended, and Rutherford, Newton, Hissett and Foster have all been injured. Hissett and Foster look likely to play, but Rutherford and Newton will both have fitness tests tomorrow morning.

☐ William Hill reported support yesterday for Lesley Ann in the Cheltenham Gold Cup, and the mare is now 7-1 (from 8-1). The firm have also taken money for Morice for the Daily Express Triumph Hurdle and have trimmed the odds from 25-1 to 20-1. Lester Piggott's mount, Bunter, is 14-1 (from 16-1) for the Lincoln

☐ Steve Smith Eccles has been booked by the Kildare trainer, Michael O'Brien to ride Tiger Whale in the Tote Placepot Hurdle at Kempton Park tomorrow. Niall Madden will partner Mick O'Toole's Bustineto in the same race.

Youngsters let France down

Troyes France Feb 25—France's 2-0 victory over Italy on Tuesday did not tub off on the under-21 team here last night. Watched by about 7,000 spectators — among them Michel Hidalgo, manager of France, — the home side struggled to a disappointing 0-0 draw against Wales.

The Welsh, who beat the French 2-0 in Newport last October, were never seriously threatened and might have won with first-half shos from Pugh, Rush and Giles.—Agence France-Press.

BUSINESS NEWS/COMPANIES AND MARKET REPORTS

INTERNATIONAL COMPANIES

Asahi Breweries of Japan reports that its unconsolidated net earnings in fiscal 1981 to December fell 14 per cent from 1980 chiefly as a result of moves to relocate workers displaced by growing mechanization.

Net earnings fell to Y1,316m (£3m) from Y1,530m (£3.6m).

Sales, though, showed rose 7.1 per cent, going up to Y198,425m from Y185.237m in fiscal 1980.

Bridgestone of Japan yesterday reported a 42.1 per cent drop in after-tax profits to Y14,180m (about £32m) for the year ended December 31, from Y24,490m a year earlier.

The company blamed the poor performance on a decline in domestic demand and a slump in market prices.

Life insurers **Allianz Lebensversicherungs** plans to pay an unchanged dividend of DM9 on 1981 results and transfer DM23m to reserves. The company, in a letter to shareholders, did not give its 1981 earnings but said the outlook for 1982 earnings was positive.

BAT Industries of the United Kingdom is to reduce its 64.5 per cent equity stake in the **Malaysian Tobacco** to 49 per cent to allow 51 per cent local ownership by 1985.

Malaysian Tobacco's equity will be restructured througha share issue or a direct sale to a Bumiputra institution.

Permodalan Nasional the state backed Bumiputra corporate group, bought 15.5 per cent of BAT's 30 per cent stake early last year to conform with the New Economic Policy requirement for a 30 per cent Bumiputra share.

Sumitomo Chemical, in Tokyo hit by slumping demand at home and abroad for petrochemical products, announced sharply lower earnings for 1981 and cut its dividend.

The company, blaming a fall in demand and competition from imports, said its unconsolidated net income tumbled 75.6 per cent, to Y2,342m (£5.5m) from Y9,582m a year earlier. Sales were down 4.9 per cent on the year.

Varta, the West German electrical company known for its batteries, reported that recessionary pressures squeezed its 1981 net profit despite a 7 per cent rise in worldwide turnover to DM1,620m (£373.9m)

Varta did not say by how much 1981 earnings fell from the 1980 figure of DM28.5m, and would not say how its 1981 dividend would compare with the DM11.9 per share paid out for 1980.

Overseas Shipholding Group, Inc. in New York reported a rise in net operating income for 1981 to $88.8m (£48.8m) from £77.2m the previous year, and in net income to $88.5m from $79m in 1980.

The group's operating fleet now totals 75 vessels. Its new building program comprises five vessels, scheduled for delivery in early 1983.

BTR Hopkins subsidiary of BTR Australia, yesterday announced pre-tax profits of A$14.983m (£8.6m) for the year ended December 31 1981. This is an increase of 85 per cent over the previous year's A$8.092m.

A final dividend of six cents per share has been declared, making a total dividend payment.

☐ **The Wako Research Institute of Economics** said in a survey report yesterday that it had revised downwards its Japanese corporate profit forecast for the six months ending next March 31. The reasons for this were a slow recovery of domestic demand, and unexpected fall in the yen against the US dollar and slowing Japanese export growth.

CAPITAL MARKETS

Mexico's **Nacional Financiera** is raising DM150m (£35.29m) through an eight-year bullet Eurobond. The issue carries an 11 per cent coupon, with an open issue price to be set on March 4.

It is the seventh bond on the present mark Eurobond calendar up to mid-April and brings the running total of new issues to DM1,000m.

The 63 **Japanese Regional Banks** plan to start selling gold bars and gold certificates to the public from April, competing with the 13 city banks. The federation of Regional banks will arrange for the banks to buy gold from trading houses or other sources and advise banks each morning of the ruling price.

The regional banks will issue gold certificates at their 5,400 branches throughout Japan, but gold bar sales will only be through main offices.

The minimum lot of sale will probably be 100 grammes, the federation said.

WALL STREET

New York, Feb 25. — Stocks were moving lower at the closing bell and finished the session mixed as its efforts to keep yesterday's rally going faded in late trading.

The bond markets also eased during the afternoon.

The Dow Jones industrial average finished at 825.82, down 0.95.

Volume slowed from yesterday's heavy pace to 54.8 million shares from 64.8 million.

Consumer prices rose by 0.3 per cent in January, the smallest rise since July 1980.

The White House said President Reagan's economic policies were the major factor in the fall in inflation over the past 12 months.

	Feb 25	Feb 24
Allied Chem	37¼	37¼
Allied Stores	28¼	27⅞
Allis Chalmers	13½	13¼
Alcoa	23¾	23¼
Amax Inc	28⅞	29½
Amerada Hess	17¼	17⅝
Am Airlines	13½	13
Am Brands	38¼	38½
Am Broadcast	30¼	30½
Am Can	27⅞	27¼
Am Cyanamid	28½	28¼
Am Elec Power	16¾	16¾
Am Home	36⅛	36⅛
Am Motors	2⅝	2½
Am Nat Res	33⅝	33⅝
Am Standard	25¼	26
Am Telephone	54¼	55
AMF Inc	19⅝	19⅝
Armco Steel	21⅛	21⅝
Asarco	21¼	21¼
Ashland Oil	26	25⅞
Atlntic Richfield	37	36¾
Avco	16⅛	16
Avon Products	25⅞	25⅞
Bankers Tst NY	34⅝	34¼
Bank of America	18⅛	18⅞
Bank of NY	44	43
Beatrice Foods	18⅛	18⅛
Bendix	53⅞	52⅝
Bethlehem Steel	20⅛	20½
Boeing	19⅞	20⅛
Boise Cascade	26¼	26½
Borden	30⅞	31⅛
Borg Warner	26	25⅞
Bristol Myers	54⅝	54¼
BP	20⅜	20⅜
Burlington Ind	19¼	18¼
Burlington Nthn	46	45⅝
Burroughs	36½	36¼
Campbell Soup	33½	34
Canadian Pacific	38	38¼
Caterpillar	48	48
Celanese	53¼	53⅛
Central Soya	10½	10¼
Chase Manhat	59⅞	60
Chem Bank NY	55⅜	54⅝
Chrysler	4½	4⅜
Citicorp	26⅞	26⅞
Cities Service	39	39⅝
Clark Equip	24⅝	24¼
Coca Cola	30½	30¼
Colgate	18	17⅞
CBS	43½	44
Columbia Gas	30¼	29⅞
Combustion Eng	30⅝	30⅝
Comwlth Edison	21¼	20⅞
Cons Edison	24⅜	24¼
Cons Foods	33⅝	33¼
Cons Power	17⅝	17⅝
Continental Grp	27¼	27
Control Data	35⅞	35⅛
Corning Glass	44⅞	44⅞
CPC Intnl	35⅞	37½
Crane	27½	27⅞
Crocker Int	29½	29
Crown Zeller	26¼	26
Dart & Kraft	50⅞	51
Deere	33½	33⅞
Delta Air	29¼	30
Detroit Edison	11⅝	11⅝
Disney	51¼	51¼
Dow Chemical	21½	21⅞
Dresser Ind	27¾	27⅝
Duke Power	22⅝	22⅞
Du Pont	35¾	36⅛
Eastern Air	5⅜	5⅜
Eastman Kodak	68⅝	67⅞
Eaton Corp	29	28⅝
El Paso Nat Gas	26⅛	25⅞
Equitable Life	9⅝	9⅝
Esmark	50	49¾
Evans P. D	10½	10⅝
Exxon Corp	28½	28⅝
Fed Dept Stores	40⅞	40¼
Firestone	10¼	10⅜
Fst Chicago	19¼	19½
Fst Intrst Bncp	31½	31½

	Feb 25	Feb 24
Fst Nat Boston	41	40
Fst Penn Corp	2⅞	2⅞
Ford	19	19¼
GAF Corp	9¼	10
Gen Dynamics	22⅞	23
Gen Electric	62¾	62
Gen Foods	30⅝	30¼
Gen Mills	37¼	38
Gen Motors	36⅝	37
Gen Pub Util NY	4⅞	4⅞
Gen Tel Elec	28½	29
Gen Tire	19⅝	19⅞
Genesco	5	5
Georgia Pacific	18⅛	17⅞
Getty Oil	48¼	48⅞
Gillette	32¼	32⅞
Goodrich	19⅛	18⅞
Goodyear	18¼	18⅞
Gould Inc	30½	30⅞
Grace	39⅝	39¼
Gt Atlntc & Pacific	4½	4½
Greyhound	14⅝	14⅝
Grumman Corp	24⅞	24⅝
Gulf Oil	30⅝	30⅝
Gulf & West	15⅞	15⅝
Heinz H. J.	31½	30⅞
Hercules	20	19⅞
Honeywell	75⅞	75
IC Inds	32¼	32⅞
Ingersoll	51¼	51¼
Inland Steel	20⅛	20⅛
IBM	61½	61⅞
Int Harvester	6⅝	6⅞
INCO	13⅝	13⅝
Int Paper	35⅞	35⅞
Int Tel Tel	25⅝	25½
Irving Bank	45⅝	44⅞
Jewel Co	30⅞	30¼
Jim Walter	18⅝	18¼
Johnson & Johns	37⅞	37⅞
Kaiser Alumin	14⅝	14⅝
Kerr McGee	31½	31⅛
Kimberly Clark	61⅛	60⅝
K Mart	17⅛	16⅞
Kroger	27⅞	28⅝
L.T.V. Corp	15½	16⅛
Litton	50⅝	50⅝
Lockheed	50⅞	50⅝
Lucky Stores	13½	13⅝
Manuf Hanover	31⅝	31⅝
Manville Cp	14⅝	14⅝
Mapco	32½	32⅝
Marathon Oil	73½	73⅝
Marine Midland	24⅝	24½
Martin Marietta	30	30
McDonnell	30⅝	29⅝
Mead	30⅝	30½
Merck	80¼	79⅝
Minnesota Mng	55⅛	55⅛
Mobil Oil	22⅞	22⅝
Monsanto	68¼	67⅞
Morgan J. P.	55⅞	56¼
Motorola	52⅞	52⅞
NCR Corp	45⅞	46⅛
NL Industries	28½	29¼
Nabisco	30½	30⅞
Nat Distillers	21⅞	21⅞
Nat Med Ent	16⅛	16
Nat Steel	23½	23⅝
Norfolk West	48⅝	47⅞
NW Bancorp	22⅛	21⅝
Norton Simon	21½	21⅛
Occidental Pet	21⅞	22
Ogden	25	24⅛
Olin Corp	19⅝	18⅞
Owens-Illinois	26⅛	26⅝
Pacific Gas Elec	22⅝	22
Pan Am	2⅞	3
Penney J. C.	32	32⅛
Pennzoil	40⅝	42⅛
Pepsico	35⅞	35⅛
Pfizer	55⅝	55½
Phelps Dodge	26⅝	26¼
Philip Morris	46	46⅛
Phillips Petrol	31⅛	33⅛
Polaroid	19⅞	19½
PPG Ind	31¼	31¼

	Feb 25	Feb 24
Proctor Gamble	83⅝	83½
Pub Ser El & Gas	20	20
Raytheon	31⅝	31
RCA Corp	17½	17⅛
Republic Steel	22⅝	23
Reynolds Ind	46⅛	45⅝
Reynolds Metal	20⅛	19⅝
Rockwell Int	28¼	28⅝
Royal Dutch	29⅛	29½
Safeways	28	27⅞
St Regis Paper	27½	27⅝
Santa Fe Ind	15⅛	15½
SCM	20	20
Schlumberger	48⅛	49½
Scott Paper	17⅝	17⅛
Seagram	52⅝	52⅝
Sears Roebuck	16⅞	16⅞
Shell Oil	33	33½
Shell Trans	25¼	25¼
Signal Co	23⅛	23⅞
Singer	14⅛	14⅛
Sony	14	14⅝
Sth Cal Edison	30⅛	30
Southern Pacific	34	34¼
Southern Rly	88	87⅞
Sperry Corp	29⅞	29¼
Std Oil Califnia	32⅝	32⅞
Std Oil Indiana	37⅝	36½
Std Oil Ohio	33⅛	33½
Sterling Drug	24⅛	24⅛
Stevens J. P.	15⅝	15⅝
Sun Comp	36	36½
Teledyne	127½	126⅝
Tenneco	27⅝	27⅛
Texaco	30⅝	30½
Texas East Corp	43⅝	43½
Texas Inst	82⅞	80⅞
Texas Utilities	21⅛	21⅛
Textron	22	21⅞
TWA	19⅛	19⅝
Travelers Corp	48¼	47½
TRW Inc	47½	47⅝
UAL Inc	17⅛	17⅝
Union Carbide	44⅝	44
Union Oil Calif	29⅝	29⅛
Un Pacific Corp	37⅝	38¼
Uniroyal	6⅛	6⅞
United Brands	9⅝	9⅝
US Industries	9⅛	9
US Steel	24½	24⅛
Utd Technol	38¼	37¼
Wachovia	22⅝	22⅝
Warner Lambert	23½	23
Wells Fargo	25½	25½
Westnghse Elec	23⅝	23⅛
Weyerhauser	27½	26⅞
Whirlpool	24⅛	24⅛
Woolworth	16⅝	16⅝
Xerox Corp	37⅞	37½
Zenith	12⅝	12⅝

Canadian Prices

	Feb 25	Feb 24
Abitibi	19⅝	19½
Alcan Alumin	24¼	24½
Algoma Steel	30½	31
Bell Telephone	17⅝	17⅞
Cominco	48⅝	49
Cons Bathurst	15	14½
Gulf Oil	13⅞	14
Hawker/Sid Can	11⅞	11⅝
Hudson Bay Min	19⅝	19½
Hudson Bay Oil	48⅝	48½
Imasco	41⅞	41⅞
Imperial Oil	20⅞	22⅛
Int Pipe	14⅝	14⅝
Mass.-Fergsn	2⅛	2⅛
Royal Trust	13⅝	13⅝
Seagram	63⅝	64½
Steel Co	26⅝	26⅝
Thomson N 'A'	24	24
Walker Hiram	15½	15⅞
WCT	13⅝	13⅝

• Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

COMMODITIES

COPPER: Higher grade was steady at the close. — Afternoon. — Higher grade cash, £856-56.50: three months, £884-84.50. Sales: 5,075 tonnes. Cash standard Cathodes, £853-55.00: three months, £879-81.00. Sales: 1,000 tonnes. Morning. — Higher grade cash, £856.50-857: three months, £885-£885.50. Settlement, £857.00. Sales: 15,825 tonnes. Cash standard Cathodes, £853.50-854: three months, £881-882. Settlement, £854.00. Sales: 525 tonnes.

TIN: Standard tin was weak. — Afternoon. — Standard cash, £7300-40 a tonne: three months £7380-90. Sales, 1,805 tonnes. High grade, cash £7300-40: three months, £7380-90. Sales, NIL tonnes. Morning. — Standard cash, £7700-7720: three months, £7660-7670. Settlement, £7720. Sales, 1,075 tonnes. High grade, cash, £7700-7720. Sales, 30 tonnes. Singapore tin ex-works, $M3?.00 a picul.

LEAD was steady. — Afternoon. — Cash £328-28.50 per tonne: three months £339-39.50. Sales, 2,175 tonnes. Morning. — Cash £329.50-330.00: three months £340-341.00. Settlement £330.00. Sales, 2,900 tonnes.

ZINC was steady. — Afternoon. — Cash £433-34.00 per tonne: three months £440.50-41.00. Sales, 1,250 tonnes. Morning. — Cash £433.50-434, three months £440.50-441.50. Settlement, £434 00. Sales, 3,425 tonnes.

PLATINUM was at £189.50 ($347.25) a troy ounce.

SILVER closed barely steady. — Bullion market (fixing levels). — Spot, 439.30p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 805.30): three months, 453.55p (831.50c): six months, 468.35p (861.10c): one year, 498.55p (921.00c). London Metal Exchange. — Afternoon. — Cash, 435-35.5p: three months, 449-49.5p. Sales, 42 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning. — Cash, 458.5-457.5p: three months, 453.7-454p. Settlement, 439.5p. Sales, 24 lots.

ALUMINIUM was steady. — Afternoon. — Cash, £574-76.00 per tonne: three months, £596-98.00. Sales, 2,575 tonnes. Morning. — Cash, £575-576: three months, £596.50-597. Settlement, £576.00. Sales, 3,625 tonnes.

NICKEL was steady. — Afternoon. — Cash £3110-20 per tonne: three months £3145-50. Sales, 144 tonnes. Morning. — Cash £3100-3108: three months £3135-3140. Settlement, £3108. Sales, 498 tonnes.

RUBBER (pence per kilo): — April 46.50-47.00: May 47.20-48.00: April-June 47.30-47.40: July-Sep 50.30-50.70: Oct-Dec 53.60-53.80: Jan-March 56.60-56.80: April-June 59.30-59.50: July-Sep 62.30-63.40: Oct-Dec 65.30-65.40. Sales: One lot at five tonnes and 212 lots at 15 tonnes (includes one kerb).

COFFEE. — **ROBUSTAS** (£ per tonne): March, 1,385-1,390: May, 1,301-1,303: July, 1,250-1,253: Sept, 1,224-1,225: Nov, 1,200-1,210: Jan, 1,190-1,205: March, 1,175-1,300. Sales: 5,670 lots, including 232 options.

COCOA (£ per metric tonne). — March, 1,203-1,204: May, 1,163-1,164: July, 1,182-1,183: Sept, 1,195-1,196: Dec, 1,201-1,211: March 1,226-1,227: May, 1,238-1,248. Sales: 2,493 lots. ICCO prices: daily (Feb 24), 95.34c; indicator price (Feb 25), 5-day average, 94.36c (US cents per lb).

SUGAR.—The London daily price of "raws" was £4.00 lower at £163; the "whites" price was £4.00 lower at £171. Futures (£ per tonne): Mch 165.75-166.00: May 167.15-167.25: Aug 170.25-170.35: Oct 173.60-173.75: Jan 175-176.00: Mch 179.25-179.50: May 182.00-182.50. Sales: 6,339 lots. ISA prices (Feb 24): daily, 12.21 c: 15-day average, 13.10 c.

SOYABEAN MEAL (£ per tonne):—Apl 129.80-130.00: Jne 127.80-128.00: Aug 128.00-128.50: Oct 128.90-129.00: Dec 131.40-131.50: Feb 132.50-133.50: Apl 132.50-136.50. Sales: 139 lots.

WOOL NZ crossbreds, No.2 contracts (cents per kilo): Mch 390-405: May 405-410: Aug 424-427: Oct 42?-426: Dec 424-427: Jan 424-427: Mch 430-434: May 437-439: Aug 444-449. Sales: 119 lots.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta) EEC origin — **BARLEY**: March £105.80: May £110.15: Sept £102.25: Nov £106.00: January £109.75. Sales: 100 lots. **WHEAT**: March £109.90: May £114.25: July £117.90: Sept £106.50: Nov £110.15: January £113.95. Sales: 165 lots.

Home-Grown Cereals Authority. — Location ex-farm spot prices:

	Other milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
S. East	—	£110.00	—
S. West	—	£109.00	£106.50
W. Mids	—	£111.00	£107.00
N. West	—	£104.40	£107.00

MEAT COMMISSION: fatstock prices at representative markets on Feb 25: GB: Cattle, 101.71p per kg lw (+0.28). UK: Sheep, 204.82p per kg est dcw (+0.11). GB: Pigs, 78.71p per kg lw (+0.51).

ENGLAND AND WALES: Cattle nos. up 17.1 per cent, ave. price, 101.98p (+0.72). Sheep nos. down 0.1 per cent, ave. price, 207.88p (+2.24). Pig nos down 7.7 per cent, ave. price 78.71p (+0.51).

SCOTLAND: Cattle nos. down 8.7 per cent, ave price, 100.87p (−0.97). Sheep nos. up 21.6 per cent, ave. price 197.44p (−4.53).

INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM EXCHANGE ($ US per tonne). — Feb 290.00-88.00: Mar 269.75-70.00: Apr 261.00-61.25: May 259.50-59.75: Jun 261.00-61.75: Jly 262.00-64.00: Aug 263.00-65.00: Sep 266.00-67.00: Oct 267.00-71.00. Sales: 1,134 lots of 100 tonnes each.

POTATOES (Gafta). — April, £145.70: Nov, £66.90: Feb, £77.00. Sales: 1,488 lots of 40 tonnes each.

BOXING

Handy Jones should be able to palm off Dane

From Srikumar Sen, Copenhagen, Feb 25

They say you can tell a lot about a person from his handshake. The solid grip that Colin Jones gave me on arrival here yesterday said rather more than that the Welshman from Gorseinon was the strong, silent type, which everyone knows. It confirmed that his injured right hand has healed completely at last.

Too often in the past Jones has failed to allay fears about his damaged hand by proferring his last three fingers on meeting someone. When shortly after meeting Jones I spoke to the tall eager-faced Dane, who looks more like one of his country's table tennis teams than the man to face the Welshman tomorrow night for the vacant European welterweight title, I thought how ironical it was that his name should be *Hans Henrik Palm*. He has been studying films of the one-handed Jones in action.

With Jones's hands in good shape, Eddie Thomas, his manager, assured me that his British and Commonwealth champion will take a grip on matters from the first bell—well, after the first round. No repetition of the two bouts with Kirkland Laing when Laing raced away to be thumped well and truly only in the ninth round both times.

Palm, on the other hand, has had the benefit of the experience of Jorge Hansen, his veteran stablemate, who *is* the only man to have beaten him twice, his only losses in 39 bouts. Hansen is a hitter like Jones, so Palm has been learning how to hit and not be hit.

Jones's body shots are enough to double up the best and that is what he aims to do to the Dane: double him up and follow through to the head as he did with Curtis Ramsey, the clever American, in Cardiff. Then Jones was a little too eager to clout him the second time and was disqualified.

Hansen, who is built like Jones, dropped Palm twice in their two encounters though the 26-year-old deputy picked himself up and carried on boxing.

So things are generally looking good for Jones, even though it is the Welshman's first professional bout abroad. The Danish crowd usually come to see a boxing match rather than just their man. Their exemplary behaviour often gives little help to the local boxer. If Jones should hear the slow handclap he should not take it to be they want him to step up the action but that they are enjoying the contest.

Palm's record is impressive. He won 54 of his 58 amateur bouts, losing in the 1976 Olympics to Vasily Solomin, the Russian lightweight. His professional record is just as good. Jones will be his 20th British opponent. Nineteen others, including Clinton McKenzie, the British and European light-welterweight champion, and four Welshmen—Chris Davies, Billy Waith, Horace Mackenzie and Gary Pearce—all failed to master the resilient Dane.

Pearce did manage to floor him; but he picked himself up and came back to outpoint the Welshman. But if Jones puts him down, and he should, Palm will stay down.

After Ray Cattouse's creditable draw in Italy on Wednesday night let us hope that Jones can start the winning run for the three others in line for European titles shortly: Maurice Hope, Pat Cowdell and Boza-Edwards.

Graham decides to excite the world

By Clive White

Minutes after Herol Graham, the British and Commonwealth light-middleweight champion, had pummelled his game challenger, Chris Christian, to a ninth round defeat on Wednesday evening, he announced to his devoted followers at Sheffield City Hall that he would now attempt to win the European title and then the world.

The boyish innocence of his voice made the suggestions sound preposterous until one recalled the brutally efficient performance he had just handed out. Criticized in the past for being unnecessarily flashy and overdefensive, he took one look at the modestly proportioned Christian and another at his bank balance and decided it was time to excite the world.

Bobby Naidoo, his manager, disclosed that he had received offers from Australia, Korea and the United States. "In the end we shall go where the money is, and there is every chance that Herol will be given early exposure on American television," he said. The Americans would be more appreciative than, say, a London audience of his defensive qualities, which though hardly in evidence on his latest appearance, may still, I feel, remain his *strategy*.

The question of his punching power remains. Though he freely shook Christian dozens of times with solid lefts and jolting right hand leads, he failed to put the Londoner down, save for a slip in the fourth. It is only fair to add that Christian has the heart and pride of a fighting cock.

With a couple of good showings in the United States Graham may find his dreams of the future working in reverse order. Wilfred Benitez, the world champion, is more likely to feel confident about a match with the 22-year-old Graham than would Maurice Hope, who boxes for the European title on March 30. Hope has at last felt the breeze of Graham's whirlwind climb to the top and will not want to endanger a return match with Benitez.

☐ Tokyo, Feb 25.—Amado Urusua, the new World Boxing Council (WBC) junior flyweight champion, may make his first title defence against the Japanese challenger Tadashi Tomori, in Japan, in mid-April. The Mexican relieved Hilario Zapata of the title on February 6 with a second-round knockout

Minter will help juniors

Seventeen months after holding the world middleweight championship, Alan Minter has decided to retire. At the age of 30, he no longer had the desire to work his way back through the rankings to another world title attempt.

Knocked out by Tony Sibson last September, he saw even the European title and Sibson move farther into the distance on Sunday when the Leicester man outpointed Dwight Davison to clinch his own world title date.

Minter, who has always been keen to encourage the younger professionals in the sport, will plough back the fruits of his own experiences by helping to train and instruct junior ABA champions on week-long scholarships. This sponsorship, by DAF Trucks, was announced yesterday. It is thought to be the first link between a professional boxer and the ABA.

Minter said: "It took me a long time to reach the decision. I spent many hours on my own and with my family thinking about it. Boxing is the only job I've ever done so it's very hard. It was a long, hard road but I had a good career."

His amateur and professional career spanned 18 years during which time he built up a reputation as a boxer who could punch. He was *labelled* "Boom-boom"

ICE HOCKEY

Great Gretzky's goal record

From Ross Waby, New York, Feb 23

Wayne Gretzky, of the Edmonton Oilers, scored his 77th, 78th and 79th goals of the professional ice hockey season last night, breaking the old record of 76.

In the remaining 16 games of the National Hockey League season he is expected to push the record close to 100. His feat, in a 6—3 defeat of the Buffalo Sabres, brought a telegram from President and Mrs Reagan. "Congratulations on your extraordinary achievement," it said.

Gretzky stands apart from other players. He is a slender young man, just turned 21, with soft, boyish features that are in marked contrast to the scarred, gap-toothed countenances that abound in the league.

He is one of the slowest and physically weakest professionals but opposing players believe he has the best perception and reaction. This gives him an advantage and opponents marvel at the way the puck appears to follow him.

"I've been doing it since I was six years old so now I don't think when I am on the ice." Gretzky explains. "It just comes to me." He avoids violent, body checking. When he is hit, tougher colleagues exact retribution. Other players are in awe of him so great is his reputation and he is known as "the Great Gretzky".

Before this season only two players had scored 50 goals in 50 games: Maurice Richard in 1944-45 and Mike Bossy last season.

Gretzky set a league record of 165 points—56 goals and 109 assists—last season, and became the first player ever to average more than two points a game. This season he has 176 points already.

Gretzky began skating at two and a half on a home rink built by his father and entered organized hockey at six. His father told him that years of sacrifice would be rewarded.

That prophesy was realized last month when the Edmonton Oilers renegotiated Gretzky's contract, agreeing to pay him more than $20m over the next 21 years.

ROUND-UP

BADMINTON

Goode's defeat denies England clean sweep

By Richard Eaton

England spent yesterday afternoon at Huddersfield Sports Centre on the brink of their third successive title in the triangular challenge against Sweden and Japan, sponsored by Crest Hotels.

They had an 11-point lead over Sweden with Japan in third place and three players in the semifinals of the singles. It was a further display of the muscle that England are beginning to flex in the international arena.

At the last moment, though, they were checked by an attack of hiccups. First Torbjorn Petersson, a last-minute substitute in the tournament when Thomas Kihlström withdrew and ranked only eighth in Sweden, inflicted England's first defeat, when he beat a tentative and nervous Andy Goode, the national runner-up, 18—16, 15—10. That denied England the clean sweep of the semifinals they had been expecting.

There followed an even bigger surprise when Mike Tredgett and Martin Dew, the Friends-Provident Masters champions, were beaten 5—15, 15—10, 15—11 by the No 2 Swedish pair, Claes Nordin and Lars Wengberg. This put them into the final against Goode and Ray Stevens. The Swedes had to win both events to deny England the title.

Defeat for Tredgett and Dew came three days after they had been announced second favourites in the proceedings for the All-England championships.

Nordin is one of badminton's most unpredictable talents. Three years ago when Sweden beat England in the Thomas Cup, he and Stefan Karlsson beat Tredgett and Stevens. A year later they succeeded them as European champions, a title they still hold. The season after that the pair was split and Nordin's fortunes suffered a decline. At his best he borders on the genius.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS: M Tsuchida (Japan) beat L Wengberg (Sweden), 15—5, 11—15, 15—[illegible]; T Petersson (Sweden) beat A Goode (England), 18—15, 15—10; C Nordin and Wengberg (Sweden) beat M Tredgett and M Dew (England), 5—15, 15—10, 15—11; R Stevens and Goode (England) beat Tsuchida and S Miyamori (Japan), 15—[illegible], 14—18, 18—15.

LATE RESULTS ON WEDNESDAY: Yates beat U Johansson 15—11, 15—10; Stevens beat K Zenya (Japan) 15—5, 15—10; S Baddeley beat C Lundberg 15—10, 4—15, 15—12; Yates beat H Hasegawa 15—10, 17—14; T Petersson beat Miyamori 15—10, 15—2; Zenya beat Karlsson 10—15, 15—9, 15—6; Baddeley beat M Tsuchida (Japan) 15—[illegible], 15—6; M Tredgett and M Dew beat Hasegawa and T Tsuji 15—4, 15—[illegible].

RUGBY LEAGUE

Leigh lose main cogs

By Keith Macklin

Leigh officials feared the worst as they awaited the outcome of yesterday's disciplinary committee meeting at Leeds and the worst happened.

Leigh will face *Hull Kingston* Rovers on Humberside in the Challenge Cup second round tomorrow without their two key players, the pack leader Tommy Martyn and the scrum half Ken Green. Despite personal appearances, they received suspensions of one match and two matches respectively.

If Leigh are worst hit by the workings of justice other clubs have to play in this weekend's challenge cup ties without important team members. Although Wigan have not lost main cogs, the absence of two forwards, the experienced Shaw and the promising young McLaughlin, will not help their cause against the cup holders Widnes. Widnes will themselves be without their latest star discovery, the utility back Myler, who received a one-match suspension.

In the case of Wigan's Shaw the player can feel that the fates have conspired against him. He appealed against his sending off against Leigh last Sunday on the grounds of mistaken identity. He was found not guilty, but Nemesis overtook him in the form of two recorded cautions for which he received a one-match ban.

Hull Kingston Rovers did not get off scot-free. Their second row forward Burton was suspended for three matches. Fulham, who have an attractive home tie against Hull, had their hooker Dalgreen banned for four matches, but at least this is partially neutralized by a one-match suspension given to Hull's hooker Wileman.

Rochdale Hornets, who visit Halifax in the cup, will be without their forward Garside and the winger Holland, who each received a one-match punishment and McCarron, the Workington Town forward, has appealed against the one-match decision which would keep him out of the tie at Bradford. The appeal will be heard today.

SUSPENSIONS: Four matches: J Dalgreen; Three matches: C Burton; Two matches: K Green; One match: R Wileman, T Martyn, G Shaw, A McCarron, I Holland, B Garside, R Spurr and N Pickerill.

GOLF

Stay amateur, says Bonallack



Michael Bonallack

Young golfers aiming to become professionals were given a firm warning yesterday by Michael Bonallack, Britain's most famous amateur.

Bonallack, now 47, was speaking two weeks before his proposed election as president of the English Golf Union. He revealed that 200 British players annually seek reinstatement as amateurs, and commented: "I am sure many youngsters turn professional too soon. Last year, the European tournament players had 100 professionals who played to an average of plus two, and there is only one amateur golfer with that handicap in England".

Bonallack said the Professional Golfers' Association used "gentle persuasion" to make amateurs realize the cost of turning professional.

RUGBY UNION

Donovan recalled for fourth cap

By Peter West, Rugby Correspondent

Alun Donovan, of Swansea, will replace his injured club colleague, David Richards, in the Welsh centre for the international against England at Twickenham on Saturday week. This is the only change to the side which beat France 22—12 in Cardiff. There is also one alteration among the reserves, the Cardiff lock, Robert Norster, coming in for Gareth Williams (Bridgend).

The choice of Ray Gravell's new international partner provides Wales with a different pair of centres for the seventh game running, and the versatile Donovan with his fouth cap.

The dashing Cardiff centre, Pat Daniels, partnered Donovan against Australia last December and gave even the renowned Wallaby defence a lot of bother. Richards returned for the Irish international (lost 12—20 in Dublin) at the expense of Donovan. Then Daniels was dropped for the French match and Gravell, who had played all four internationals for the Lions in South Africa in 1980, was recalled for his 21st cap.

Pontypool's tight head prop, Graham Price, will win his 37th consecutive cap at Twickenham, overtaking the record for a Welsh prop held by Denzil Williams. The Welsh selectors have stated that Stuart Barnes, the Oxford University and Newport stand-off, was not considered when they chose their team, which suggests that, but for a groin strain, he might have been in line for one of the places among the reserves.

WALES: G Evans (Maesteg); R A Ackerman (Newport), R W R Gravell (Llanelli), A J Donovan (Swansea), C F W Rees (London Welsh); W G Davies (Cardiff, captain), T D Holmes (Cardiff); I Stephens (Bridgend), A J Phillips (Cardiff), G Price (Pontypool), R C Burgess (Ebbw Vale), S Sutton (Pontypool), R D Moriarty (Swansea), J R Lewis (Cardiff), J Squire (Pontypool). Replacements: M Wyatt (Swansea), M Dacey (Swansea), C Williams (Bridgend), C Williams (Swansea), W James (Aberavon), R Norster (Cardiff).

ROWING

Clare move up to challenge

By a Special Correspondent

Clare moved into the challenger's position when they caught the deposed head boat, Lady Margaret, to the cheers of the spectators at The Plough on the second day of Cambridge Lents. The new leaders, Trinity Hall, rowed over untroubled, but they were not too convincing over the second half of the course, so a fine race is likely tonight.

Although starting nearer first post, Downing, clocked by the 1981 CUBC president, James Palmer, at 45 off the start, again failed to reach the corner, catching Fitzwilliam going into the bend.

Caius continued to go for quick kills, pouncing on Peterhouse

In the women's division it appeared likely to be a seven-boat convoy at the top, but Clare caught Churchill in the last few strokes.

Oriel keep their heads in front

By Jim Railton

Oriel, stroked on bow side, kept off Keble's challenge for the second successive day to stay head crew in Oxford Torpids yesterday. On Wednesday, Keble closed to within half a length before catching a crab; yesterday, Oriel appeared to have found something extra, with a length to spare approaching the boathouses and just under that at the finish. In division three St Edmund Hall II collided with the bank and sank.

There was no change at the top in the *women's* competition either, Jesus, Somerville and Lady Margaret Hall rowing over for the second successive day



HOCKEY

Stone cool Firebrands' ardour

By Sydney Friskin

Stone	7
Firebrands	4

Stone, one of two Midland clubs to reach the final stages of the national indoor championship, sponsored by Rank Xerox, qualified for the semi-final round at Crystal Palace last night before a capacity crowd of 700. Their early sparkle enabled them to beat Firebrands, the Somerset champions, in an exciting match.

In 1975, under a different format, Stone reached the last 16 when they lost to Tulse Hill. Having come through this time from a tough qualifying group they did well to beat a more experienced side from the West Country whose fortunes were guided from the middle by Carl Ward, who plays for England.

The Midland club seized the initiative in a six minutes spell of fire and brimstone, running up a three-goal lead. In doing so John Greatholder achieved the first treble of the tournament.

But the fire of the West Country club was not yet extinguished even though Stone had increased their lead to 4—0 through Robins. They came back strongly with Ewing converting a corner and Armstrong scored with his first touch of the ball, having come on timely as a substitute.

But Robins restored Stone's advantage and took them into a 5—2 interval lead, having saved a certain goal on the line from a corner. A superb goal by Brothers immediately after the interval raised Firebrands' hopes

Firebrands were twice frustrated by Figueredo, who made brilliant saves on the line from corners. Stone gained much relief when Greatholder scored his side's sixth goal.

With about a minute and a half to go Ewing converted a corner for Firebrands, but Figueredo made sure of victory for Stone with a fine goal all on his own. Slough, the defending champions, also qualified for the semi-final round with a 6—0 victory over St Albans.

Reserves step into the spotlight

By Joyce Whitehead

Today and tomorrow provide curtain raisers for the home countries women's international matches which start on March 6. The international B teams from the four home countries are playing one another on the Lancashire county cricket ground at Old Trafford. At 2.30 pm Scotland play England, followed by Wales v Ireland at 3.00 pm. Tomorrow play starts at 10 am.

The players have nothing to lose and, in some cases, much to gain. One or two, such as Mary Eckersall, who captains England B, and Rosemary Sykes may show why they should be recalled for the full England team before the end of the season. It is already known that Janet Jurischka, of Kent, has withdrawn from the England squad, and her replacement must come from the squad playing this weekend.

Miss Jurischka's decision may be because of pressure of work—or because time is too short just to sit on the subs' bench. She will be a loss to the team, as she scored the winning goal for England at Wembley last March, having been brought on as a substitute for the last four minutes.

England also need another goalkeeper, the selectors having left a space when the teams were announced. Two England goalkeepers, Julie Cook, of Suffolk and Rachel Holden, of Shropshire, are playing in the reserves at Old Trafford today.

Sandra Lister, of Sussex, is ill. Her place in the England B side is being taken by last year's international player, Susan Slocombe, of Somerset.

GOLF

Nicklaus in lake and into lead

From John Ballantine
Miami, Feb 25

Jack Nicklaus drove into the lake that cuts into the 18th fairway of the 7,065 yard "Blue Monster" course here, but he scored 67 and was an early joint leader in the first round of the Doral Eastern Open today. The other leaders were Bobby Wadkins, the winner of the inaugural European open in 1978, and a little-known Californian, Eric Batten.

Mark James scored 68 and would have joined them, had a well-struck birdie putt from nine feet not jumped in and out of the hole on the last green. Severiano Ballesteros, who represents the host club, scored 69, after looking at one time as though he might overpower the long and testing course, with its many lakes coming into play at 12 of the 18 holes. Howard Clark had a modest 75; Sandy Lyle and Nick Faldo were out late.

Nicklaus, whose marvellous 64 almost caught Johnny Miller on the last day at San Diego last month, is always a potent force in Florida. He did not drive well, missing six fairways, but he hit 17 greens in regulation strokes. His only serious error came at the 18th, which was his ninth hole, as he began on the tenth tee.

"They have kept members' caddy carts off the fairways and out of the rough for about a month, and so the grass is longer than usual," he explained. "I didn't want to drive through the fairway and give myself a difficult lie, so I cut the corner of the lake a bit. I was either five yards too left or five yards short.

Either way, his ball pitched into the water and he had to take a drop where it crossed the bank and ended up with a six. His three birdies on his second half testified once more to his amazing powers of concentration and determination.

James put his excellent form down to the fact that he installed a net for the first time in his garden in Leeds this winter and thus was able to practice hard, even in the worst of the weather. "Going to South Africa for a month was another good way to get into top gear," he said.

"I'm swinging more freely than I usually do at this time of the season. My putter is warm instead of being icy," he said with an unexpected flash of verbal colour. His birdies were made mainly with wonderfully accurate approach irons, although he did hole a 15 footer for a two at the ninth and he chipped in from 30 feet with a sand wedge at the 14th.

LEADERS: (US unless stated): 67: J Nicklaus, B Wadkins, E Batten. 68: M James (GB), C Peete, A Bean, J Boros, S Benson. 69: S Ballesteros (Spain), J Heard, S Hoch, R Baugh. 70 (includes): I Aoki (Japan), C Strange, G Burns, J Pate. 71 (includes): B Cole (South Africa), M Kuramoto (Japan). 72 (includes): H Green, M Piñero (Spain), S Torrance (GB). 75: H Clarke (GB).

HONGKONG: Open championship, first round leaders: 67: K Hirabayashi (Japan), T Gale (Australia). 68: Hung Wen Nong (Taiwan), S Ginn (Australia), K Cox (US), K Sheung Hack (South Korea). 69: Hung Fa (Taiwan), M Miller (GB), K Arai (Japan), K Yong II (South Korea). 70: Hsien Yung Yo (Taiwan), Tsao Chien Teng (Taiwan), T Stockman (US), Chen Tsu Ming (Taiwan), Liao Kuo Chih (Taiwan). 71: N Suzuki (Japan), R Wrenn (US), L Brooker (US), D Klenk (US), C Byrum (US), M Ramayah (Malaysia), S Onsham (Thailand), G Norman (Australia), S Nakajima (Japan), S Fujiki (Japan), Lai Chum Hui (Taiwan). Also: 73: T Horton (GB), P Townend (GB). 75: B Barnes (GB).

CRICKET

Rain hampers Test pitch preparation

From Peter McFarline, Wellington, Feb 25

The first Test of the three-match series between Australia and New Zealand begins here tomorrow with the threat of an underprepared wicket hanging over the sides. There is also some doubt that play will start on time, unless there is a dramatic change in the weather.

Persistent rain at the Basin Reserve ground in the past five days has given the groundstaff little chance of preparing a Test-class wicket. Both sides are already sceptical of the wicket's qualities after last Saturday's one-day international here in which New Zealand were bowled out for 74 on a surface which had been affected by rain.

The Australians' preparation for the match has been hindered by the weather. The three-day game against North Island at Napier lasted only three and a half hours before rain set in and the match was abandoned.

New Zealand have included five seam bowlers in their 12 and no spinner. Hadlee, Cairns and Troup are expected to play, with the final choice being between Snedden and Chatfield. Martin Crowe, aged 19, a right-hand batsman will be making his Test debut.

Crowe, an exciting striker of the ball, played without success in the one-day series, which was won by Australia, but he was forced to bat at No 3. In this match, that position will be taken by the veteran, John Morrison, who has been recalled at the age of 34 for his first Test since New Zealand's tour of India in 1976. Morrison has had an outstanding domestic season and captained Wellington to victory in the inter-provincial Shell Shield. Morrison also has extensive knowledge of the vagaries of the Basin Reserve wicket.

The Australians have included the off spinner, Yardley, in their 12 for the match and he is expected to play at the expense of a pace bowler, Pascoe. With 38 wickets Yardley was Australia's most successful bowler in the Test Indies earlier this year. series against Pakistan and West

The Australian Cricket Board and the New Zealand Cricket Council have agreed that the teams will be fined for slow over-rates in this series. For failing to achieve more than 14 overs an hour throughout a match, a side will be fined $NZ1,000 (about £430).

AUSTRALIA (from): G S Chappell (captain), K J Hughes, B M Laird, G M Wood, J Dyson, A R Border, R W Marsh, B Yardley, D K Lillee, J R Thomson, T M Alderman, L S Pascoe.

NEW ZEALAND (from): G P Howarth (captain), B M Edgar, J G Wright, J F M Morrison, J V Coney, M Crowe, R J Hadlee, I D S Smith, M C Snedden, G B Troup, E J Chatfield, B L Cairns.

● Sri Lanka arrived in Karachi yesterday for a five-week tour, including three Tests against a Pakistan side likely to be without 10 leading internationals, who have refused to play under the captaincy of Javed Miandad.

● Northamptonshire made a profit of £26,967 in 1981, their best year financially.

● Gloucestershire have signed Robert Russell, a 19-year-old wicket keeper batsman.

SQUASH

Fitness of Williams is decisive

After two days of competition the first round of the Lookers Masters tournament produced an extended match. The first eight matches went to the minimum of three games but last night in Bradford Dean Williams, of Australia, and Ross Norman, of New Zealand, produced a crackling, five-game match.

Norman is ranked eighth in the world and Williams is one below him. Both players know each other's game intimately and played as if their lives depended upon it.

In the other match Jahangir Khan, the 18-year-old world champion, beat the South African number 1, Roland Watson. The burly Watson, ranked ten in the world, was in a stubborn mood and led Jahangir 8-4 in the second game.

However, Jahangir stepped up a gear and won the match in 33 minutes lashing the ball to all corners of the court with great venom.

QUARTER-FINALS: Jahangir Khan (Pakistan) beat R Watson (SA), 9—2, 9—8, 9—0; D Williams (Australia) beat R Norman (NZ), 3—9, 9—0, 7—9, 9—2, 9—4.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated.

FOURTH DIVISION: Colchester v Rochdale; Stockport County v Wigan Athletic.

FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Crystal Palace v Luton Town.

HOCKEY: Women's international B tournament (Old Trafford, Manchester): Scotland v England (2.30); Wales v Ireland (3.0). Men: Indoor club finals (at Crystal Palace).

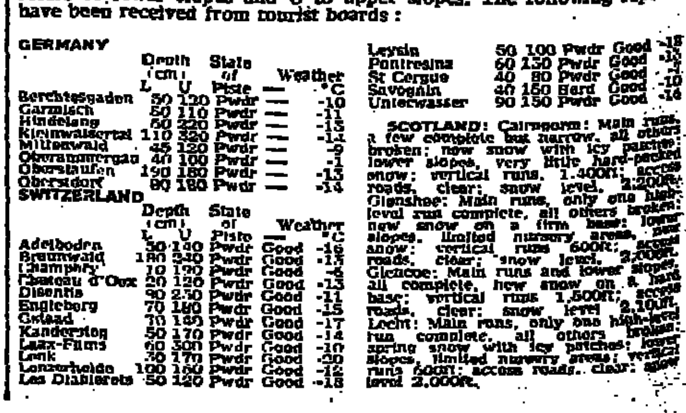
BADMINTON: England v Japan (Gateshead, 6.30). Home counties under-16 quadrangular international (Chester).

CROSS COUNTRY: Men's and women's inter-service championships (Deepcut, Surrey).

SKIING CONDITIONS

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Piste	Conditions Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm) —	°C
Arosa	150	200	Good	Powder	Good	Fine	-8
Powder on good base							
Andermatt	140	280	Good	Powder	Good	Fine	-5
Icy patches on south slopes							
Courmayeur	146	272	Good	Varied	Icy	Fine	2
Good snow on icy base							
Grindlewald	50	130	Good	Powder	Good	Fine	-5
Good skiing everywhere							
Isola 2000	140	185	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	-8
Excellent piste skiing							
Klosters	130	235	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	-10
New spring snow on good base							
La Plagne	170	310	Good	Powder	Good	Fine	-6
Good skiing everywhere							
Mürren	135	240	Good	Powder	Good	Fine	-6
Powder on hard base							
St Anton	118	420	Good	Powder	Good	Fine	-2
Good skiing off piste							
Wengen	60	130	Good	Good	—	—	
Good skiing on and off piste							
Zermatt	60	160	Fair	Varied	Poor	Fine	-4
Worn patches on lower slopes							

In the above reports, supplied by the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports have been received from tourist boards:



GERMANY

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather —	°C
Berchtesgaden	50	120	Pwdr	—	-10
Garmisch	50	110	Pwdr	—	-11
Hindelang	50	220	Pwdr	—	-15
Kleinwalsertal	110	320	Pwdr	—	-14
Mittenwald	45	120	Pwdr	—	-9
Oberammergau	40	100	Pwdr	—	-1
Oberstaufen	190	180	Pwdr	—	-13
Oberstdorf	80	180	Pwdr	—	-14

SWITZERLAND

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather —	°C
Adelboden	50	190	Pwdr	Good	-16
Braunwald	180	340	Pwdr	Good	-15
Champéry	10	190	Pwdr	Good	-6
Chateau d'Oex	20	120	Pwdr	Good	-13
Disentis	90	250	Pwdr	Good	-11
Engelberg	70	180	Pwdr	Good	-15
Gstaad	70	180	Pwdr	Good	-17
Kandersteg	50	170	Pwdr	Good	-14
Laax-Flims	60	300	Pwdr	Good	-10
Lenk	30	170	Pwdr	Good	-20
Lenzerheide	100	160	Pwdr	Good	-12
Les Diablerets	50	120	Pwdr	Good	-18
Leysin	50	100	Pwdr	Good	-18
Pontresina	60	150	Pwdr	Good	-15
St Cergue	40	80	Pwdr	Good	-4
Savognin	40	150	Hard	Good	-10
Unterwasser	90	150	Pwdr	Good	-14

SCOTLAND: Cairngorm: Main runs, a few complete but narrow, all others broken; new snow with icy patches; lower slopes, very little hard-packed snow; vertical runs 1,400ft; access roads clear; snow level 2,200ft. Glenshee: Main runs, only one high-level run complete, all others broken; new snow on a firm base; lower slopes, limited nursery areas, new snow; vertical runs 600ft; access roads clear; snow level 2,000ft. Glencoe: Main runs and lower slopes, all complete, new snow on a hard base; vertical runs 1,500ft; access roads clear; snow level 2,100ft. Lecht: Main runs, only one high-level run complete, all others broken; spring snow with icy patches; lower slopes, limited nursery areas; vertical runs 600ft; access roads clear; snow level 2,000ft.

SPORT

Last trophy from Lancia

Nick Skelton and Graham Fletcher, who have given up their chances of competing in the 1984 olympic games after relinquishing their amateur status, will be among the challengers for the top prize at the final Lancia Trophy meeting at Park Farm, Middlesex, tomorrow.

After ten years, the sponsors are retiring, so this will be the last chance for the favourite, David Broome, to add another of their vehicles to the six he has already won.

The car goes to the rider with the highest placings in two events, the Trophy and the Lancia Silver Lance. There is also £6,000 in prize money, including £1,400 to the trophy winner.

Deleon batters Camel to defeat

Atlantic City, New Jersey, Feb 24. Carlos Deleon of Puerto Rico retained his world Boxing Council (WBC) cruiserweight title tonight when he battered the former Champion Marvin Camel into a seventh round defeat.

The ring physician stopped the contest because of a cut over Camel's right eyebrow.

It was Deleon's first defence of the title he took from Camel in November 1980.

The former WBA heavyweight champion Leon Spinks, boxing for the fist time as a cruiserweight, outpointed Ivy Brown. — Reuter.

WG want to be hosts

Dortmund, Feb 24. — West Germany want to host the 1992 Winter Olympics.

Willi Daume, president of the West German National Olympic Committee (NOC), said they came to the decision at today's executive session of the committee.

Garmisch-Partenkirchen and Berchtesgaden both want to stage the Games and the NOC will decide between them next year. Competition is expected from Italy with Cortina d'Ampezzo, and Sweden, with Falun. They lost out to Calgary, Canada, for the right to hold the 1988 Winter Olympics.—Reuter.

More medals

Holmenkollen, Feb. 24.—The world Nordic skiing championships may be held every two years instead of every four years, Marc Hodler, president of the International Skiing Federation, said.

He denied such a move would interfere with the annual Nordic and Alpine skiing World Cup series and said it would give competitors a greater chance to win medals.

No decision on the changes is likely to be made before a federation meeting in Australia next year. But the Alpine, Scandinavian and Eastern European countries are thought to support the idea, although the resulting increase in costs might lead American and Far Eastern countries to oppose it.

Final fixed

Zagreb, Yugoslavia, Feb 25. — Cibona Zagreb, of Yugoslavia, and Real Madrid, of Spain, will meet in the final of the men's European Cup Winners' basketball cup in Brussels on March 16.

Cibona eliminated Stroitel Kiev of the Soviet Union by winning the second leg of their semi-final 92-66 here on Tuesday, to take the tie on aggregate 158-148.

Real Madrid booked their place in the final on Wednesday with a 107-94 home triumph over Sinudyne Bologna of Italy, winning on aggregate 186-172.

Marlow stricken

Janet Marlow has 'flu and has withdrawn from the Great Britain team for Saturday's athletics international against East Germany in Senftenberg. Her place in the 800 metres goes to Julie Asgill, of Stretford. The men's team also shows one change, with Haringey's Mark Aldridge replacing Nick Tabor in the shop putt.

Family affair

A mother and son are likely to oppose each other in the Cheltenham Gold Cup next month. Arthur Moore runs Royal Bond, who will be ridden by Gerry Newman, and his mother Joan Moore saddles Tied Cottage. Tommy Carberry will ride Tied Cottage.

Northants profit

Northamptonshire County Cricket Club showed their best-ever profit of £26,967 in 1981, though that figure included the Test and County Cricket Club share-out of £142,836.

RESULTS

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Boston Celtics 132, Utah Jazz 90; Milwaukee Bucks 113, New Jersey Nets 106; Indiana Pacers 118, New York Knicks 87; Portland Trail Blazers 123, Kansas City Kings 111; Phoenix Suns 131, Cleveland Cavaliers 97; Houston Rockets 120, Denver Nuggets 110.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS' CUP: Semi-final, eighth series: Panathinaikos (Greece) 72, Squibb Cantu (Italy) 103.

KORACS CUP: Semi-final, second leg: Tungsram Budapest 67, Spartak Moscow 88 (Spartak win 175-115 on aggregate); Kralovopolska Brno (Czechoslovakia) 73, Akademik, Sofia (Bulgaria) 61 (Brno won 139-132 on aggregate).

KORAC CUP: Semi-final, second leg: KK Sibenka (Yugoslavia) 101, Red Star Belgrade 83 (Red Star win 200-138 on aggregate).

CYCLING

MONACO: Grand prix placings (French unless stated): 1, P Villemiane (Wolber) 4hrs 40mins 11secs; 2, S Boucherie (Sem) at 1 minute; 3, A Mantheour (Mercier) at 3.07.

FOOTBALL

CALCUTTA: Jawaharlal Nehru Gold Cup tournament: Uruguay 3, India 1.

ALGIERS: Tour match: Algerian XI 0, Courtrai (Belgium) 1.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Hartford Whalers 4, Boston Bruins 3; New York Rangers 6, Chicago Black Hawks 3; Edmonton Oilers 6, Buffalo Sabres 3; Minnesota North Stars 7, Toronto Maple Leafs 5; Winnipeg Jets 5, Philadelphia Flyers 2; Los Angeles Kings 5, Detroit Red Wings 3.

RACING

The tiger who has lost his teeth

By Michael Seely



Nearly there: Walnut Wonder (Colin Brown), winner of the 1.45 at Wincanton yesterday, goes clear of Migrator (Richard Dennis) at the last flight.

Misfortune struck two old warriors at Wincanton yesterday. Bird's Nest blundered badly at an early stage in the Kingwell Pattern Hurdle and was pulled up before the field turned into the straight. A similar fate befell Border Incident in the Jim Ford Challenge Cup, although on this occasion Richard Head's chaser showed none of his former brilliance.

Border Incident was like a tiger at his fences in his prime, but yesterday he jumped far too big and awkwardly. It was obvious on the far side of the course that he was not going to be involved in the finish. Head said afterwards: "This could be the end of the road for Border Incident. I've only got one trick left up my sleeve."

Bob Turnell, on the other hand, was not in the least bit despondent about Bird's Nest, who has won 20 races during his long and chequered career. The Marlborough trainer, who has no intention of retiring his favourite horse, said: "When he's had a bit of practice he'll be alright."

The Kingwell Hurdle was won by Walnut Wonder, who was strongly ridden by Colin Brown. David Elsworth's seven-year-old just got the better of a close finish with Migrator. "You could call this a brilliant bit of opportunist training," Elsworth said with his tongue in his cheek. Walnut Wonder fell on his first attempt over fences at Fontwell last Monday, but the trainer left the horse in yesterday's race because the opposition appeared to be comparatively weak.

Elsworth said that both Heighlin and Lesley Ann were in good shape for their assaults on the Champion Hurdle and Cheltenham Gold Cup. Another likely runner in the Gold Cup is Henry Bishop, who beat Master Smudge by four lengths in an incident-packed Jim Ford Cup.

"I'm not saying he's good enough to win," Josh Gifford said "but he's certainly entitled to run." The same goes for Master Smudge, who was awarded the Gold Cup after the disqualification of Tied Cottage in 1980.

Only three runners completed the course. After the departure of My Always and Yule Star, Artifice fell at the second fence from home. Great Dean, who finished second to Venture to Cognac in that controversial forecast race at Kempton, plodded on to take third place a distance behind the principals.

The oldest horse to take part in the afternoon's proceedings was the 15 year old Casbah, who finished third to Beacon Time in the Fonthill Handicap Chase. As the Blackmore Vale Hunt streamed across the field opposite the stands, Casbah looked a threat jumping the third fence from home but then tired. Fulke Wawyn was not at Wincanton, but a stable spokesman said that Beacon Time would not go for the Dick McCreery Cup at the Grand Military meeting.

At Kempton this afternoon Fred Winter, the man in form, could land a treble by winning the Emblem Handicap Chase with Prayukta, the Otard Cognac Novices Chase with Princeton, and the Gibbs Land Rover Hunters' Chase with Rolls Rambler.

Oliver Sherwood will ride Rolls Rambler, whose odds for the Grand National will be drastically reduced if the 11-year-old wins in good style. Rolls Rambler was a brilliant hunter chaser two seasons ago, when he was successful in all his five races. Training toubles have prevented him from running since then, but hopes are high that Rolls Rambler can beat Dancing Brig today.

Kempton Park

Tote: Double 2.30 and 3.30. Treble 2.0, 3.0 and 4.0.

1.30 EMBLEM CHASE (Handicap: £2,313: 2m) (3 runners)

102 01-3333 PRAYUKTA (CD) (Mrs I Macaulay) F Winter 7-11-7 ....J Francome
104 433210 SPIN AGAIN (CD) (Mrs D Stoddart) D Morley 7-10-6 ....P Scudamore
107 f42102 TOWER MOSS (CD) (A Neaves) A Neaves 9-10-0 ....C Mann 7

4-5 Prayukta, 7-4 Spin Again, 7-2 Tower Moss.

2.0 LITTLETON HURDLE (4-y-o novice handicap: £867: 2½m) (9)

203 00012 WALLY WOMBAT (E Pratt) M Scudamore 11-8 ....P Scudamore
206 31202 GREAT LIGHT (B Atkinson) J Jenkins 11-2 ....M Harrington 4
208 113200 TAKEAFENCE (Stratton Services) R Hannon 11-1 ....A Turnell
210 2230 HIGH HEAVEN (J Hast) A Moore 10-7 ....G Moore
211 3300 CREATIVE STAR (P Cooper) J FitzGerald 10-7 ....P A Charlton
212 0030 RED FIELD (J Orbell) W Holden 10-4 ....S Smith Eccles
214 040000 KASHILL (G Dawes) H O'Neill 10-0 ....M Hammond 7
215 20400 ATLANTA LADY (A Ridout) A Ridout 10-0 ....P Hobbs
216 00031 SIR GIVENCHY (Mrs J Dunlop) W Musson 10-0 (8ex) ....A Coogan

9-4 Wally Wombat, 11-4 Great Light, 5 Sir Givenchy, 8 Creative Star, Takeafence, 10 High Heaven, 12 others.

2.30 OTARD COGNAC CHASE (novices: 2m) (7)

302 01-4001 CRUISE MISSILE (CD) (M Thorne) N Henderson 6-11-10 ....S Smith Eccles
303 f43421 KALKASHANNDI (Mrs K Underwood) D Morley 6-11-10 ....P Scudamore
304 044211 PRINCETON (DB) (Lady Douglas-Pennant) F Winter 5-11-1 ....J Francome
305 0-24up4 CROUTON (N Capon) H Price 6-11-5 ....C Gwilliam 4
308 /021-02 LORD JOHN (P Newton) N Gaselee 6-11-5 ....R Linley
311 041114 IMPERIUM (D) (Mrs W Nehoral) J Old 5-11-1 ....R Champion
313 000-00p HURRICANE CHARLIE (Mrs C Williams) R Turnell 5-10-10 ....A Turnell

13-8 Princeton, 4 Kalkashanndi, 9-2 Cruise Missile, 7 Imperium, 8 Lord John, 12 Crouton, 20 Hurricane Charlie.

Winter's men: Oliver Sherwood (left) and John Francome both ride for Fred Winter at Kempton today.

3.0 GIBBS LAND-ROVER HUNTER CHASE (£1,615: 3m) (5)

401 3101-12 DANCING BRIG (CD) (Mrs L Clay) T Clay 11-12-7 ....T Clay
402 013220 JACK MADNESS (CD) (P Hopkins) J Gifford 10-12-7 ....A J Wilson
403 230314- SUN LION (R Waley-Cohen) N Henderson 12-12-7 ....C Bealby 7
408 ff KIANI (D Sieff) D Sieff 12-11-7 ....Miss D Yeoman 7
409 b11111/ ROLLS RAMBLER (B Brazier) F Winter 11-11-7 ....O Sherwood

7-4 Dancing Brig, 9-2 Jack Madness, 5-2 Rolls Rambler, 8 Sun Lion, 20 Others.

3.30 ASHFORD HURDLE (Div I: £1,053: 2m) (20)

501 00011 MIRROR BOY (CD) (N Whitcomb) H Price 5-11-10 ....C Gwilliam 4
502 103142 SILCAKEY (D) (O McDowell) D Elsworth 5-11-10 ....C Brown
503 264331 TRACYS SPECIAL (D) (Maj J Rubin) R Hannon 5-11-10 ....A Turnell
505 p00 ALLADO (A Neaves) A Neaves 6-11-10 ....C Mann 7
506 ARCTIC WARBLER (Mrs P Robeson) F Winter 5-11-0 ....J Francome
507 40000 ARSENAL (B) (G Passey) Miss E Sneyd 7-11-0 ....D Jackson 7
508 004233/ BATTEN (B Eadman) B Palling 6-11-0 ....C Candy
509 u00-000 BERULIA (G Burr) G Burr 6-11-0 ....M Richards 7
511 p0b0/0 BRAVE SPIRIT (W Whitbread) R Armytage 7-11-0 ....A Webber
512 000/000 BREATHING EXERCISE (Exors of late D Lennon) J O'Donoghue 8-11-0 ....A Curran 4
515 p00 COLLECTOR'S GOLD (Mrs J Mason-Hamlyn) B Grissell 5-11-0 ....Mrs D Grissell
517 p- CONGO (D Fletcher) D Fletcher 5-11-0 ....DOUBTFUL
518 300-000 CORAL LEISURE (B) (M Jackson) G Balding 5-11-0 ....B Reilly
520 223 ESAL CONDOR (Esal Commodities) P Mitchell 5-11-0 ....R G Hughes
524 f0 LEPRAK LADY (Mrs V O'Brien) J Long 5-11-0 ....C Mann 7
525 000-000 L'EMPEREUR (G Peak) A Moore 5-11-0 ....G Moore
526 00 OVERULE (Mrs S Kenworthy) E Kenworthy 5-11-0 ....T Austin 4
527 000 PIANOSO (Mrs E Richards) H O'Neill 5-11-0 ....G Gracey
528 0- QUAYPLAY (N Cabburn) G Kindersley 5-11-0 ....P Scudamore
530 00- TRIAL SHOT (Dick Francis) M Francis 5-11-0 ....S Keightley 4

7-4 Mirror Boy, 7-2 Silcakey, 4 Arctic Warbler, 6 Tracy's Special, Esal Condor, 14 others.

4.0 ASHFORD HURDLE (Div II novices: £1,068: 2m) (22)

602 100 GOD'S FRESH AIR (D) (Miss R Hunter) J Webber 5-11-5 ....A Webber
604 02-4001 LEANDER BLUE (Miss M Roger) D Nicholson 5-11-5 ....P Scudamore
605 12 PLUNDERING (CD) (Mrs M Valentine) F Winter 5-11-5 ....J Francome
606 214323 ST WILLIAM (D) (W Morecombe) Mrs R Lomax 6-11-5 ....Mr Peter Hobbs 7
608 p CAVALRY CLUB (T Pirouet) Miss E Sneyd 6-11-0 ....D Jackson 7
612 0-0 GREATEST HITS (W Gaff) D Laing 5-11-0 ....M Bastard
615 INCHGOWER (T Prince) W Wightman 5-11-0 ....M Reeves 7
616 IRISH GLORIA (M O'Grady) G Thorner 6-11-0 ....R Kington
617 00- JULESIAN (West London Copiers) D Elsworth 5-11-0 ....C Brown
618 10000 KINGMON'S GIRL (J King) J Long 5-11-0 ....Mr C Willett 4
619 LAUSO'S BEST (T Dyer) D Grissell 5-11-0 ....J Akehurst 7
620 0 MASTER ASPHALT (P Gibney) F Oakes (Ire) 5-11-0 ....P Barton
621 0400 MAYFIELD BOY (C Godden) R Smyth 7-11-0 ....R G Hughes
622 00p00 MORNING ENQUIRY (N Wheeler) N Wheeler 5-11-0 ....Mr N Wheeler
623 00 MORNING LINE (G Brunton) P M Taylor 5-11-0 ....S Keightley 4
624 p00-000 MY BOY BOY (Miss J Kennedy) H O'Neill 5-11-0 ....G McCourt
625 030-00 OVINGTON COURT (M Ward-Thomas) R Head 6-11-0 ....R Champion
626 PERHAPS LUCKY (Mrs V Hodges) D Elsworth 5-11-0 ....J Davies 7
628 00004- RUSHOCK (M Cook) D Marks 7-11-0 ....P Grimes 7
631 000-44 SWEET ENCHANTMENT (L Wareham) B Stevens 5-11-0 ....S Smith Eccles
632 032-02 SWEET PADDY (R Barber) J Thorne 6-11-0 ....R Linley
634 00-04 WIDO (Victor Chandler) M Masson 5-11-0 ....B de Haan

11-8 Plundering, 7-4 Leander Blue, 6 St William, 8 God's Fresh Air, 12 Sweet Paddy, 14 others.

Southwell

1.45 ELSTON CHAPEL CHASE (novice handicap: £640: 3m 110yd) (14 runners)

2 1p2r1f KEEP TRYING (J Walby) W A Stephenson 8-11-8 ....R Lamb
4 3-1030u PALACE ROYAL (R Tate) R Tate 9-10-13 (7ex) ....P Tuck
6 0313p0 TWILIGHT STAG (P Marsh) W Jenks 8-10-11 ....R F Davies
9 f01002 CYPO (B) (Mrs A Akeroyd) A Jarvis 8-10-10 ....J Burke
10 0231-22 GREY COBWEB (Mrs E Treasure) J Edwards 9-10-6 ....—
12 p00-044 EBONY BILL (W Naylor) K Bailey 7-10-4 ....A Webb
14 3f0f04 MOUNT ALLEN (C C C Racing) W Wharton 7-10-3 ....S J O'Neill
15 00-434f GAME BIRD (Mrs M Bennion) R Carter 8-10-12 ....Mr W Bennion
18 4-p0f02 TAMBEAU (H Johnson) P Pritchard 8-10-0 ....Mr M Mann 7
20 00p030 CREGG (Mrs J French) Mrs J French 9-10-0 ....Mrs S French
21 fp40-00 LORD RIVERS (Mrs A Harvey) A Potts 9-10-0 ....—
24 00C000 FANCY FELLOW (R Burt) W Clay 8-10-0 ....—
26 040f40 BALLET MASTER (Ld Harlech) A W Jones 9-10-0 ....S Keightley 4
27 0r-04p0 BARTON CROSS (A Watson) A Watson 8-10-0 ....J McLaughlin 4

11-4 Cypo, 7-2 Keep Trying, 9-2 Grey Cobweb, 6 Palace Royal, 8 Tambeau, 10 Twilight Stag, 12 Ebony Bill, 14 others.

2.15 NORMAN MOTTE HURDLE (selling handicap: £642: 2m) (12)

1 110000 FLORENCE (CD) (G Wingrove) W Charles 6-11-10 ....M Charles 4
3 00-p00p POMME STAR (CD) (L Furman) L Furman 8-11-4 ....A Brown
4 0-00032 TIPTOE LOVER (C Tinkler) N Tinkler 6-11-0 ....Kim Spink 7
6 p4f000 RIBODEN (D Richards) G Fletcher 4-10-13 ....G Fletcher 4
7 0/000-u YANKEE BALLAD (D) (R Hobson) R Hobson 6-10-11 ....D Shaw 7
8 f-p0ef0 SICILLIAN GOLD (K McCourt) M Chapman 5-10-8 ....P Dever 7
12 00000 MISS TOMISKA (M Clifford) P Pritchard 4-10-6 ....Mr M Mann 7
14 000 ROOFER (B) (Newmarket Roofing) R Boss 4-10-5 ....—
15 000400 GAMBLING WREN (B) (P Riley) W Clay 6-10-5 ....M Elliott 4
16 00-00p0 MISS LAUSIENNE (Mrs V Whitley) A Smith 6-10-4 ....C Grant
18 0000-0p BOOGY STREET (D) (B Stamper) A Smith 6-10-3 ....J A Harris 4
20 000-004 KERSIL (N Chamberlain) N Chamberlain 5-10-3 ....—

2 Tiptoe Lover, 11-4 Florence, 4 Pomme Star, 5 Kersil, 7 Gambling Wren, 10 others.

2.45 MINSTER CHASE (Handicap: £1,320: 2m 74yd) (12)

2 0f2403 STARLIGHT LAD (R Bethell) R Bethell 8-11-9 ....C Grant
3 10/0-344 BAMBER'S SECURITY (Mrs W Sykes) Mrs W Sykes 10-11-8 ....S Morshead
4 00211f0 BASH STREET KID (M Raphael) R Hoad 7-11-2 ....R Goldstein
5 41131f0 DEAR REMUS (CD) (J Nicholson) J Harris 10-10-12 ....J A Harris 4
6 4131f3/p NEWS LANE (CD) (S Foster) G Fletcher 10-10-11 ....G Fletcher 4
7 43-4f0p TURK (CD) (L Furman) L Furman 10-10-10 ....A Brown
12 222p/f3 ST TORBAY (Mrs G Baleson) J Blundell 9-10-0 ....P Tuck
14 03000-p BAZZ'S BOY (B Haywood) Mrs B Waring 6-10-0 ....J Southam
15 0004p0 FOOLISH HERO (B) (Mrs J Wakely) K Bailey 6-10-0 ....A Webb
16 0034p-0 SAMMY SOUZA (CD) (H Lee) R Juckes 8-10-0 ....P Carvill
18 3-p0000 MASTER WHAT (CD) (F Jackson) W Clay 10-10-0 ....M Elliott 4
19 12ee00 GENTLE ROSE (CD) (Safety in Construction) M Chapman 11-10-0 ....P Dever 7

5-2 Starlight Lad, 7-2 Bash Street Kid, 5 Bamber's Security, 6 Dear Remus, 8 St Torbay, News Lane, 12 Turk, 16 others.

3.15 NEWARK CASTLE HURDLE (Handicap: £1,048: 2½m) (18)

1 10232-0 BOARDMANS SPECIAL (CD) (Maj J Rubin) A Jarvis 8-11-12 ....J Burke
3 102002 PETER THE BUTCHER (CD) (P Caselli) Mrs M Nesbitt 5-11-11 ....C Hawkins
5 04-4000 ALWAYS UNPAC (B) (Un Pac Containers) W Elsey 6-11-8 ....A Flint
7 000040- VISCONTI (Mrs D Bailey) M W Dickinson 6-11-5 ....—
8 0001-01 SPEED OF LIGHT (D) (B Stamper) A Smith 7-11-5 (9ex) ....J A Harris 4
10 0021-00 VIRGINIA DRIVE (D) (B Robinson) R Juckes 10-10-13 ....Mr M Castell
12 91300 BERKELEY LAD (A Pidgley) P Cundell 5-10-13 ....—
14 000-000 BELLE ISLE BOY (B) (W Smith) W Smith 6-10-8 ....K Williams 4
15 03410p CHEQUERS GIRL (A Corfield) J Spearing 7-10-8 ....A Brown
16 023022 NATIVE BREAK (R Morris) Mrs W Sykes 5-10-6 ....S Morshead
17 0p BORDER RIVER (W C Watts) W C Watts 9-10-5 ....D Dutton 4
18 000000 SALUTE THE LAW (F Coxon) W Clay 11-10-3 ....M Elliott 4
19 00/000- HIT THE ROOF (E Farr) S Cole 8-10-2 ....M Bastard
21 003000 WALDUCK (T Hodgkins) M Chapman 5-10-1 ....P Dever 7
23 000400 CHAPERON (W Marson) J Harris 6-10-0 ....J A Harris 4
24 0000- HELDCBTY (D) (B Morgan) B Morgan 8-10-0 ....P Carvill 4
25 0p-p0fp NOMADIC STAR (H Ford) H Ford 8-10-0 ....—
26 00-820 CUENCA (Miss M Strickland) R Woodhouse 7-10-0 ....J Kell 7

7-4 Peter the Butcher, 9-4 Speed of Light, 9-2 Boardmans Special, 7 Visconti, 8 Native Break, 10 others.

3.45 SOUTHWELL HUNTER CHASE (£873: 3¼) (5)

2 2p-0021 HONOURABLE MAN (Mrs P Russell) Mrs P Russell 9-12-1 ....A Fowler
11 01113/0 GINTOP (Mrs J Turner) Mrs J Turner 11-11-6 ....G Halder 7
12 f GREAT HUNT (M Bloom) M Bloom 10-11-6 ....M Bloom
15 IT'S SUPER CANDY (J Coates) A Watson 9-11-6 ....DOUBTFUL
19 fr/ VULGAN'S TROUT (A Watson) A Watson 14-11-6 ....D Coates 7

3 Honourable Man, 11-2 Gintop, 10 Great Hunt, 20 It's Super Candy, 33 Vulgan's Trout.

4.15 QUEEN'S SCONCE HURDLE (Div I: 4-y-o novices: £414; 2½m) (9)

1 004301 GOLDLINER ABBEY (C) (T Edmonds) J Hardy 11-8 ....S Johnson 4
2 000000 BUT BEAUTIFUL (B) (Miss J Collins) C Pinkham 10-12 ....D Lancaster 4
3 00 CHANEY (G Thomas) G Fletcher 10-12 ....G Fletcher 4
6 00 HAVON AIR (Mrs P Badger) J Spearing 10-12 ....S Morshead
8 000431 LE GRAN BRUN (D) (D Elton) P Cundell 11-8 ....—
11 400000 POLIPUTER (G Harman) G Harman 10-12 ....P Harman 7
13 0043 THE IRISH RHINE (D Wilson) D Wilson 10-12 ....M Coyle 4
14 00 THREE SWALLOWS (D Vinson) K Stone 10-12 ....C Tinkler
15 02003 UNDER-RATED (T English) M W Easterby 10-12 ....P Tuck

7-4 Le Gran Brun, 3 The Irish Rhine, 4 Goldliner Abbey, 6 Under-rated, 7 Three Swallows, 10 others.

4.45 QUEEN'S SCONCE HURDLE (Div II: 4-y-o novices: £414: 2½m) (9)

2 pp CASWELL ROAD (F Rowley) T Taylor 10-12 ....Mr M Rowley 7
4 10034 MASTER AT ARMS (K Roberts) Mrs S Roberts 10-12 ....—
5 00 ROYAL BOUNTY (Mrs P Sheen) N Henderson 10-12 ....—
6 000000 SILVER LEO (B Wade) J Harris 10-12 ....J A Harris 4
7 00 SUPER SPARTAN (R Hitchcock) J Spearing 10-12 ....S Morshead
8 0 SWEET HIGHNESS (E Campbell) M Tompkins 10-12 ....—
9 00 VICTORY PRIZE (D Metcalfe) J Doyle 10-12 ....J C Doyle
11 WOLVER BAY (H Insley) W Clay 10-12 ....N Clay
12 00 ZIPARIB (P Wright) O Brennan 10-12 ....J Hughes 4

15-8 Master At Arms, 11-4 Royal Bounty, 7-2 Super Spartan, 9-2 Wolver Bay, 10 Sweet Highness, 12 others.

Southwell selections

By Michael Seely

1.45 Grey Cobweb. 2.15 Tiptoe Lover. 2.45 Starlight Lad. 3.15 Visconti. 3.45 Honourable Man. 4.15 Le Gran Brun. 4.45 Ziparib.

Kempton Park selections

1.30 Prayukta, 2.0 Wally Wombat, 2.30 Princeton, 3.0 Rolls Rambler, 3.30 Mirror Boy, 4.0 Leander Blue.

Wincanton results

Going: Soft

1.15 (1.18) FONTHILL CHASE (Handicap: £1,542: 2m)
BEACON TIME, br g by Babu — The Combe (Lt Col R Perry) 8-10-5 K Mooney (evens fav) 1
Balmers Coombe ....B de Haan (40-1) 2
Casbah ....H Davies (14-1) 3
TOTE: Win: 17p; places, 17p, 44p, 14p. Dual F: £5.04. CSF: £4.09. F Walwyn, at Lambourn. ¾l, 7l. Insulation (15-2) 4th. 9 ran.

1.45 (1.46) KINGWELL PATTERN HURDLE (£4,656: 2m)
WALNUT WONDER, b g by Crozier — Gretna Wonder (F Hunt) 7-11-7 C Brown (4-1) 1
Migrator ....R Dennis (11-4) 2
Royal Cacino ....M Williams (66-1) 3
TOTE: Win: 33p; places, 12p, 12p. Dual F: 58p. CSF: £1.51. D Elsworth, at Fordingbridge. ¾l, 30l. Liquidate (66-1) 4th. Birds Nest evens fav. 6 ran.

2.15 (2.17) JIM FORD CHASE (£3,264: 3m 1f)
HENRY BISHOP, br g by Crown Lease — Onealady (Sir R Wates) 9-11-11 H Davies (5-4 fav) 1
Master Smudge ....R Linley (10-1) 2
Great Dean ....B Wright (100-1) 3
TOTE: Win: 18p; places, 10p, 22p. Dual F: 64p. CSF: £1.31. J Gifford, at Findon. 4l, dist. 7 ran, 3 finished.

2.45 (2.50) MERE HURDLE (Div I: 4-y-o Maidens: £608: 2m)
FLYING DREAMER, b g by My Swallow — Forgotten Dreams (G Bailey) 10-10 R Linley (16-1) 1
Kallie ....M Bastard (3-1 fav) 2
Westerpayne ....M Ahyiff (10-1) 3
TOTE: Win, £2.90; places, 45p, 20p, 29p. Dual F: £5.53. CSF: £8.80. M Blanshard, at Lambourn. ½l, 1½l. Kinniger (9-1) 4th. 23 ran.

3.15 (3.19) FAIRYLAND CHASE (Handicap: £1,853: 2m 5f)
STRAIGHT CASH, b g by Menelek — Better Deal (Mrs E Shales) 9-10-12 S Morshead (4-1) 1
Swallow Prince ....J Davies (16-1) 2
Royal Admiral ....H Davies (13-8 fav) 3
TOTE: Win, 56p; places, 24p, 21p, 20p. Dual F: £1.39. CSF: £8.95. Tricast: £13.37. Mrs W Sykes, at Bishops Castle. 2l, 10l. Mandolin King (14-1) 4th. 14 ran. NR: Tiepolino.

3.45 (3.48) MERE HURDLE (Div II: 4-y-o maidens: £600: 2m)
CORNISH GRANITE, gr c by Ragstone — Pasty (G Palmer) 10-10 S Smith-Eccles (6-1) 1
Uppety ....H Davies (6-4 fav) 2
Hope End ....Mr A J Wilson (25-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 56p; places, 25p, 14p, 61p. Dual F: 93p. CSF: £1.54. M Pipe, at Wellington. 2½l, 2l. Fire Chieftain (50-1) 4th. 20 ran.

4.15 (4.18) MERE HURDLE (Div III: 4-y-o maidens: £590: 2m)
UPPER NOTE, b g by Upper Case — Harmonise (Ld Rotherwick) 10-10 H Davies (8-1) 1
Bowden ....G McCourt (5-1) 2
Elizabeth Howard ....P Hobbs (33-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 79p; places, 37p, 11p, 87p. Dual F: £1.35. CSF: £3.79. T Forster, at Wantage. 7l, hd. Coal Bunker (2-1 fav) 4th. 14 ran. NRS: Disco, Moat Fun. Placepot: £12.55.

OFFICIAL SCRATCHINGS: Gold Cup, Cheltenham: Bold Argument, Sun Tomplegate Hurdle, Liverpool: Fane Ranger. All engagements (Dead): Isle of Avelon, Lost Line.

Warwick results

Going: Heavy.

2.00 (2.2) STUDLEY HURDLE (Novices handicap: £690: 2m)
BROOKS LAW, ch g by Chief Justice — Queens Brook (D Bloomfield) 7-10-1 Mr L Bloomfield (10-1) 1
Ray Proctor ....Jessica Wallace (25-1) 2
Sam Bennion ....P Carvill (33-1) 3
TOTE: win, 96p; places, 17p, 39p, 63p, 48p. Dual F: Winner or second with any other horse, 45p. CSF: £24.32. Tricast: £706.67. D Bloomfield, at Launceston. 5l, 3l. Artic Pascal (20-1) 4th. Charley Ficher 7-2 fav. 25 ran.

2.30 (2.31) KNIGHTLOW CHASE (Handicap: £1,458: 2½m)
RUBBER LEGS, b g by Henry the Seventh — Star Combet (K Read) 6-10-0 J Suthern (7-1) 1
Pewter Spear ....R Lamb (3-1) 2
Go Free ....Mr J Cambidge (5-2 fav) 3
TOTE: Win, 55p; places, 12p, 20p, 10p. Dual F: 62p. CSF: £2.70. W Marshall, at Newmarket. 1½l, 10l. Prince of Pleasure (4-1) 4th. 9 ran.

3.0 LOWER SWELL TRIAL HURDLE (Novices: £2,674: 2m 5f)
MY BOY JACK, B. G. by Raise You Ten-Bounty's Jewel (Ld Vestey) 7-11-5 P Scudamore (2-1) 1
Gallaher ....W Smith 2
Gilded Gold ....R Lamb (7-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 29p; places 14p, 12p. Dual F: 23p. CSF: 41p. D Nicholson at Stow on-the-World. 8l, 6l. Pickled Tink (33-1) 4th. 6 ran.

3.30 TOWN OF WARWICK HUNTERS CHASE (£934: 3¼m 600yd)
OTTER WAY b g by Salmonway Spirit-Marquila (O Carter) 14-12-0 C Down (7-4) 1
Royal Guide ....R Mann (6-1) 2
General Dow ....M Mann (8-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 26p; places, 12p, 12p, 18p. Dual F: £1.12. CSF: £1.39. O Carter at Ottery St Mary. NK, 2½l. Hunter's Guide (7-1) 4th. 10 ran.

4.00 (4.1) CASTLE CHASE (Div I: Novices: £1,157: 2m)
IVORY THRUST, b g by Light Thrust — Caroline C (P Southgate) 8-11-6 A Webber (2-1) 1
Tartan Heath ....P Scudamore (10-1) 2
Daggers Drawn ....R Crank (20-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 27p; places, 19p, 27p, 25p. Dual F: £3.40. CSF: £2.18. K Bailey at East Ilsley. 5l, 20l. Haldon Heath (14-1) 4th. 12 ran.

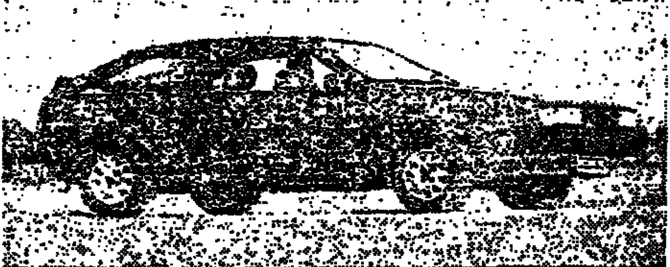
4.30 (4.30) CASTLE CHASE (Div II: Novices: £1,143: 2m)
SIOBHAN'S JOY, ch g by Laurence O — Even More (J Horgan) 7-11-6 bl Steve Knight (11-1) 1
Chaucer's Last ....A Webb (11-4) 2
Treasure House ....P Scudamore (15-2) 3
TOTE: Win, £1.41; places, 38p, 18p, 24p. Dual F: £3.32. CSF: £4.13. R Hannon at Marlborough. 4l, 12l. Generous Bid (20-1) 4th. 12 ran.

5.0 (5.1) BANBURY HURDLE (Handicap: £1,138: 2m)
WESTERN MAN br g by Boreen (FR)-Beaushe (Mrs C Shipley) 7-11-3 Mr D Browne (8-1) 1
Shoulton ....George Knight (15-2) 2
Sea Cargo ....P Scudamore (7-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 38p; places, 11p, 29p, 29p. Dual F: £7.04. CSF: £4.69. J Fitzgerald at Malton. Hk, 4l. Rolleston 9-4 fav. Private Craft (10-1) 4th. 6 ran. PLACEPOT: £202.55

STATE OF GOING (official): Kempton Park: Good to soft. Southwell: Soft. Tomorrow: Doncaster: Good; Stratford: Good to soft.

Motoring by Peter Waymark

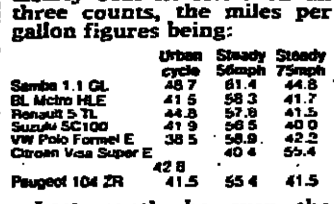
A question of consumption



Power with economy — the revised Scirocco GTi

The arrival in Britain this week of Talbot's new small hatchback, the Samba, may start a fresh wave of argument about the validity of the independent fuel consumption figures that manufacturers are obliged to quote when referring to economy in handbooks and advertisements.

Those interested in this contentious subject may remember that when the Samba was announced last autumn, the official test figures suggested that the 1.1 GL model was the most economical car in Europe. It clearly beat its rivals on all three counts, the miles per gallon figures being:



	Urban cycle	Steady 56mph	Steady 75mph
Samba 1.1 GL	48.7	61.4	44.8
BL Metro HLE	41.5	58.3	41.7
Renault 5 TL	44.8	57.8	41.5
Suzuki SC100	41.9	56.5	40.0
VW Polo Formel E	38.5	58.8	42.2
Citroen Visa Super E	42.8	60.4	39.4
Peugeot 104 ZR	41.5	55.4	41.5

Last month, however, the Samba's claim to be top of the economy league was challenged by the latest version of the Renault 5, the GTL 5-speed, which bettered the Talbot on two of the three official figures, with 62.8mpg at 56mph and 46.3mpg at 75mph. Although it fell short on the urban cycle test, which yielded 44.8mpg, two out of three seemed a winning margin.

But Talbot was not prepared to concede. It pointed out that if the three figures were mixed together to produce an overall average fuel consumption, then the Samba could still come out top. The formula used was the one adopted by the British motor industry in 1979 when giving its pledge to the Government to improve consumption of future models: 40 per cent of urban cycle, 50 per cent of 56mph and 10 per cent of 75mph.

Talbot calculated that on this basis the Samba, over 10,000 miles, uses 4.6 gallons less petrol than the Renault 5 GTL. Since the total fuel consumed would be 185.89 gallons by the Samba and 190.502 gallons by the Renault, the difference is hardly significant; but it does give Talbot a useful marketing ploy.

The composite miles per gallon figures for these and the other models in my list, work out as follows. Five of the eight cars are French; indeed, three, the Samba, 104 and Visa, share basically the same 1.1 litre engine:

1	Samba	54.68
2	Renault 5 GTL	53.95
3	Renault 5 TL	50.87
4	Metro HLE	49.82
5	Polo Formel E	49.07
6	Suzuki SC100	49.01
7	Peugeot 104 ZR	48.45
8	Visa Super E	48.14

The weighting is, of course arbitrary, though it roughly corresponds to the pattern of car usage in Britain as revealed in surveys by the Government's Transport and Road Research Laboratory. My main objection to the formula is that it places too much emphasis on the steady 56mph figure, which is arguably the least realistic of the three.

In my experience the urban cycle figure is a reasonable guide to what I expect to obtain driving the car in city traffic. The steady 75mph figure is strictly academic, since such a speed is illegal in Britain, though it does approximate to motorway cruising. But surely no one drives at a steady 56mph for any length of time, unless they use very straight, empty country roads.

Part of the trouble is that the 56 and 75mph steady speed tests derive from Continental measures, respectively 90 and 120 kilometres. To give a more appropriate cruising figure for British roads, the chosen steady speed should be somewhere between.

On the Continent, car manufacturers, while using the same three test figures, employ a different method of arriving at the overall average. They simply weight the figures, equally, which in a country like Germany will probably reflect the higher proportion of motorway driving. Using this system, the results for my eight models are:

1	Samba	51.63
2	Renault 5 GTL	51.30
3	Renault 5 TL	47.98
4	Metro HLE	47.16
5	Polo Formel E	46.53
6	Visa Super E	46.20
7	Suzuki SC100	46.13
8	Peugeot 104 ZR	46.13

It will be seen that the figures are lower and, perhaps closer to what a motorist will actually get. The positions of the models are almost the same, except that the Visa moves above the Suzuki and Peugeot.

On both weightings the Samba's lead in the urban cycle gives it an overall advantage and since a small car is likely to spend a good proportion of its time making short journeys in traffic, Talbot can reasonably claim to have Europe's economy champion. But for how long is another matter.

Volkswagen Scirocco GTi

It is a sign of the times that in launching its "Mk2" Scirocco, Volkswagen should place more emphasis on practical matters like space and fuel consumption than on its more sporting attributes. Scirocco sales in Britain have fallen by nearly two-thirds since 1979 and Volkswagen hopes that the revised model will have wider appeal and reverse the trend.

Not that there was very much wrong with the original. Even if a tall driver did find his head brushing the roof, the car was quick and handled like a dream and that, after all, is what a sports coupe is mainly about. But evidently, in these depressed times, that is the wrong image to project.

The new Scirocco is, in essence, the mid-term reskin; the bodyshell is entirely new, the mechanicals much as before. The car is 4in. longer, with a slightly higher roofline. Much of the extra space has gone to the boot, though head and elbow room in the passenger compartment is slightly better as well. As for the shape, it is said to be aerodynamically 10 per cent more efficient; it also looks good, turning many heads as it stood in my drive.

To cater for different tastes, Volkswagen has reorganized the Scirocco range so that the CL base model is cheaper than before and there is an economy version which has an overdrive gearbox and runs on two-star fuel. But my test is of the top model, the fuel injected GTi; with a top speed of 117mph, it can claim to be the fastest car yet to carry the Volkswagen badge.

The GTi is powered by the now familiar 1588cc overhead camshaft engine, mounted transversely and driving the front wheels through a close-ratio five-speed gearbox. It is fitted with electronic ignition and develops an impressive 110bhp. VW claims a 0 to 60mph acceleration time of 9.5 seconds, which is slower than before and suggests that the aerodynamic gains may be offset by the extra weight of the new bodyshell.

Subjectively, the car did not feel fast in the way that, for example, the XR3 Ford Escort does, and top gear flexibility was a shade disappointing; but these things are relative. Though hard acceleration produces some boom, the engine is not unpleasantly noisy and despite low gearing it cruises smoothly. There is little wind or road noise.

The official fuel consumption figures present a confusing picture, suggesting that the revised car is more economical at steady speeds but thirstier in town. The urban cycle reading is a modest 24.4mpg but I managed up to 27mpg, while my touring figure was 40mpg, an excellent return for a sporting car.

The handling of the Scirocco has not changed and had no need to. The car feels very taut and responsive, corners almost neutrally and with virtually no roll and has superb roadholding. The steering, light enough when the car is on the move, is, however, heavy and low-geared for parking and the gearbox could be easier to use: it often jibs at going into first and reverse and the narrow gate means that fifth can be engaged instead of third.

The ride is very firm, in the German manner, but well controlled so although bumps in the road are felt there is no crashing or wallow. The seats are also firm, not to say hard. They are well shaped, give good support and can be adjusted for height as well as rake and reach.

Accommodation is still strictly two-plus-two, which means that the rear seats are best reserved for children. Access to the back of the car is awkward unless the front seats are pushed fully forward. The bigger boot is useful, though its width is restricted by the wheel arches and it has a high lip.

At £7,374 the GTi is expensive when set against rivals like the Ford Capri or Renault Fuego and for that price it is surprising to discover that the radio is an extra. But the car gives an enormous amount of driving pleasure, and not at the expense of fuel consumption.

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF A PRE-INQUIRY MEETING INTO AN APPLICATION FOR CONSENT TO CONSTRUCT A PRESSURISED WATER NUCLEAR POWER STATION AT SIZEWELL IN SUFFOLK

1. The Central Electricity Generating Board has applied under Section 2 of the Electric Lighting Act 1909, as amended, to the Secretary of State for Energy for his consent to construct a PWR nuclear power station of about 1200 MW, to be known as Sizewell 'B', on the existing power station site at Sizewell, Nr. Leiston in Suffolk. Notice of the application was published in February 1981.

2. The Secretary of State has decided that a Public Inquiry should be held into the application under Section 34 of the Electricity Act 1957, and has appointed Sir Frank Layfield QC as Inspector to conduct the Inquiry on his behalf.

3. The Inspector will hold a Pre-Inquiry meeting at the Maltings Concert Hall, Snape, Suffolk on Monday 22 March 1982 starting at 11.00 a.m. and on Tuesday 23 March. Any person who wishes to attend may do so.

4. Arrangements are being made for the main Inquiry to be held at the same venue commencing early in January 1983. Formal notice will be given in due course.

5. Copies of the Board's application for consent to construct the proposed station together with a plan showing the land to which it relates are available for inspection at the offices of the following:—

Clerk, Leiston Town Council
Council Offices
Main Street
Leiston
(Mondays, Tuesday and Wednesdays only)
Leiston Branch Library
Old Post Office Square
Main Street
Leiston
(Tuesdays, Thursdays, Friday mornings and Saturdays only)
Suffolk Coastal District Council
Planning Department
Council Offices
Melton Hill
Woodbridge
Suffolk County Council
Planning Department
St. Edmund House
Rope Walk
Ipswich
26 February 1982

LEGAL NOTICES

No. 005222 of 1980

In The High Court of Justice, Chancery Division, Mr Justice Nourse Fo. 256 B22. Monday the 9th day of March 1981 in the matter of J & R GRANT LIMITED and in the matter of THE COMPANIES ACT 1948.

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that the ORDER of the High Court of Justice, Chancery Division, dated the 9th day of March 1981, confirming the REDUCTION of the capital of the above-named Company from £50,000.0 to £45,000.00, and the capital Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company, as altered, the several particulars required by the above mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on the 21st day of April, 1981.

Dated this 26th day of February, 1982.

LAWRENCE MESSER & CO., 16 Coleman Street, London EC2R 5AB
Ref: RJH/TA Solicitors for the above-named Company.

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of MEETING of CREDITORS BANCROFT SHIPPING COMPANY LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 293 of the Companies Act 1948, that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above-named Company will be held at Fifth Floor, Hill House, 1 Little New Street, London E.C.4, on Tuesday, the 2nd day of March 1982 at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, for the purpose of having a full statement of the position of the Company's affairs, together with a List of the Creditors of the Company and the estimated amount of their claims, laid before them, and for the purpose, if thought fit, of nominating a LIQUIDATOR and of appointing a COMMITTEE OF INSPECTION. Forms of General and Special Proxy are enclosed herewith. Proxies to be used at the Meeting must be lodged with the Company at its Registered Office at 5th Floor, Hill House, 1 Little New Street, London E.C.4, not later than 4 o'clock in the afternoon of the day before the Meeting.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that, for the purpose of voting, Secured Creditors must (unless they surrender their security) lodge at the said Registered Office of the Company before the Meeting a statement giving particulars of their security, the date when it was given and the value at which it is assessed.

DATED: 16th February, 1982.
By Order of the Board of Directors.
M BLAKELEY, Secretary.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

LECTURESHIP IN ECONOMICS

The Department of Economics invites applications for a Temporary Lectureship in Economics from those with interests in any field of economics.

The lectureship is tenable for one year from a date to be agreed between 1st August and 1st October, 1982. The salary is within the normal range for lecturers, which is £6,070 to £12,860 per annum according to qualifications and experience. It is probable that an appointment will be made in the lower half of the scale.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Registrar and Secretary, University, Senate House, Bristol BS8 1TH, to whom applications should be sent by 19th March, 1982 (please quote reference EB).

PERSONAL COLUMNS

". . . IF WE HAVE forgotten the name of our God . . . shall not God search this out? For He knoweth the secrets of the heart." Psalm 44: 20, 21.

BIRTHS

BULMER.—On 23rd February, to Barbara (née Parton) and Tod of Kenyon Hall—a son (James Thomas), a brother for Simon.

CORNWALL-LEGH.—On February 25th, to Joanna, wife of Richard Cornwall-Legh—a son.

EGGAR.—On 23rd February, to Catherine (née Rankin) and Duncan—a son (Samuel William).

FAWKNER-CORBETT.—On February 25th, to Dany and Philip—a daughter.

GRIMLEY.—On 24th February, 1982, at Aberdeen Maternity Hospital, to Rosemary (née Holland) and Alan—a daughter (Melissa).

HUNNICUTT-JENKINS.—On February 24th, to Gayle and Simon—a son (Edward Lloyd), a brother for Nolan.

LAME.—On 22nd February, to Jane (nee Moore) and Adrian—twins, a brother and sister for Katharine and Amy.

LING.—On February 23, to Katie (nee Gardiner) and Jonathan—a daughter (Eleanor).

MACDONALD OF MACDONALD.—To Clare and Godfrey—a son.

MILLARD.—On February 22nd, to Helen (nee Sykes) and Nicholas—a daughter (Isabel Anne).

MURRAY WILLIS.—On February 24th, to Bunny and James—a son, brother to Eliza.

SAVORY.—On February 17th, at St. Thomas's Hospital, to Diana Fackerbarth and James Savory—a daughter.

SERVATIUS.—On February 23rd at Johannesburg, to Prunella and Bertie, a son.

SKIDMORE.—On 25th February, to Christine and Michael—a son (Ben) first grandchild of Mr and Mrs R. A. Hooton of Mansfield.

BIRTHDAY

NIKKI. Wishing you a very happy birthday. Love from Mummy and Daddy.

DEATHS

ADAIR, ALICE MARY, of Craddock Lodge, in Exeter, 19th February, widow of Captain W. H. B. Savile. She married secondly the late Major J. A. Adair, M.C. Cremation in Exeter after service in St Mary's, Uffculme, 11.15, 25th February.

ALDRIDGE.—On February 23rd, 1982, at home in his 98th year, Gerald Ashburner Mooring Aldridge, beloved husband of Elsie Winifred, and father of Catherine, Margaret, Frances and Janet, grandpa of 14 grandchildren, and great grandpa of 16 great grandchildren, ex-R.N.V.R. 1914-1918 war. ...

WAECHTER DE GRIMSTON.—Widow of Sir Max Waechter, D.L., J.P., Armatrude, formerly of Grimston Garth & Goodmanham, J.P. for the East Riding of Yorkshire, fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, aged 91, on 25th February, 1982, on whose soul may Christ have mercy. Family service by invitation only, to be held in private chapel, followed by cremation at Woodlands Crematorium, Scarborough, on Tuesday, March 2nd. Memorial service to be held at St. Hilda's Priory, Sneaton Castle, Whitby, at 11 a.m., Wednesday, March 3rd. No letters please and no flowers by request. If so desired, donations to Scarborough Flower Fund, c/o Coulson & Co., Belgrave Crescent, Scarborough.

WILLIAMSON.—On Wednesday, February 24th, 1982. Very suddenly at The Wheelhouse, Strone, Argyll, Harry Vallentine Williamson, R.D., R.N.R., retired Captain P & O S.N. company. Beloved husband of Edith and father of Anne and Michael. Service at Strone Church at 9.30 on Saturday, February 27th, followed by funeral at Greenock Crematorium at 11 a.m.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

WRANGHAM.—A Memorial Service for C. E. (Dennis) Wrangham, C.B.E., will be held at St Columba's, Church of Scotland, Pont St., London, S.W.1 on Thursday, March 4th, 1982, at 3 p.m. The family very much hope that those who come will be able to join them afterwards in the upper hall of the church.

IN MEMORIAM

O'REGAN, DAVID CORNEL.—February 26th, 1981. Remembered especially on this day by his family.

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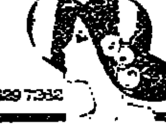
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مكذا من الاصل

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davalle

BBC 1

6.40 Open University. Images of Cities; 7.30 Art on Film; 9.00 For Schools, Colleges: Biology: Play Tennis: The Boy From Space; It's Maths!; Maths File; Hyn o Fyd (for Welsh viewers): Nantgarw; Talkabout; Going to Work; Plants in Action; 12.30 News After Noon: with Richard Whitmore and Moira Stuart; 12.57 Financial Report. And news headlines; 1.00 Pebble Mill at One: with Anthony Burton who has written a book about the waterways of Britain; 1.45 Bagpuss; 2.02 For Schools, Colleges: Britain's Nuclear Defence and, at 2.35, A good Job with Prospects (taking responsibility); 3.00 Closedown; 3.20 Pobol y Cwm: serial story, in Welsh; 3.55 Play School: for details, see BBC 2 at 11.00am.

4.20 Pixie and Dixie: cartoon.

4.25 Jackanory: Colin Jeavons reads the final part of William Browning's Grimm Grange (r).

4.40 Finders Keepers: Quiz game, with electronic wizardry. Gower House School, London, versus the 10,11,12 Club, Grove Centre, Wantage.

5.05 Grange Hill: Why the school revue item by Precious Matthew does not please the head.

5.35 Ivor the Engine.

5.40 News: with Jan Leeming.

6.00 South East at Six.

6.22 Nationwide: with Desmond Lynam's Sportswide at 6.40.

6.50 International Superstars: Britain is represented by Andy Ripley (last year's international champion) and Brian Hooper (reigning UK champion). For the Townsend Thoresen Trophy.

8.00 Fame is the Spur: Final episode. Hamer is re-elected and Arnold leads the jobless miners in a march on London. And Charles and Alice wed.

8.50 Points of View: Barry Took has fun with viewers' letters.

9.00 News: with John Simpson. And weather prospects for the weekend.

9.25 McClain's Law: Crime thriller starring James Arness. Tonight, he and his partner Harry Gates (Marshall Colt) administer their own brand of justice when a bunch of hoodlums threatens a family.

10.15 Face the Music: Quiz which illustrates the point that musical experts don't have to be stuffy when revealing the extent of their knowledge. With David Attenborough, Arianna Stassinopoulos and Richard Baker. The guest is the conductor James Loughran, and the MC is Joseph Cooper (r)

10.50 Ballroom Champions: The UK championships. Couples compete for the Amateur modern and professional Latin American titles. From the Hammersmith Palais.

11.35 Film: The Devil's 8 (1969). American-made crime thriller (reminiscent of the Dirty Dozen) with Christopher George as the Federal agent who, with the help of a gang of convicts, wages war on some whisky racketeers led by Ralph Meeker. Also starring Fabian. Directed by Burt Topper. Ends at 1.15am.

BBC 2

6.40 Open University. Today's subjects are Insect Diversity; 7.05 Earth materials (1); 7.30 Quantum Theory and Atomic Structure. Open University programmes end at 7.55. Interval until Play School at 11.00. It features Martin Fisher's story All Aboard the Plane. The presenters are Carol Chell and Stuart McGugan; 11.25 Closedown; 3.55 Around with Alliss: Another in this golfing series in which Peter Alliss takes a celebrity around the course and interviews him at the same time. Today, it's the Welsh singer and comedian Max Boyce. They're at the Royal Porthcawl, in South Wales (r).

4.25 The World Land Speed Record: Campbell, Cobb, Segrave and Co.

5.10 Pilgrimage: From Manchester mosque to Mecca.

5.35 Weekend Outlook: Open University trailer.

5.40 Film: Sherlock Holmes and the Secret Weapon* (1942). The supersleuth versus the Nazis again. With Rathbone and Bruce and (as Moriarty) Lionel Atwill.

6.50 Dear Heart: New comedy serial about a magazine for teenagers. With Toyah Willcox.

7.15 Cartoon: The Aquarium.

7.25 News.

7.30 Heroes: Dorothy Heacoate's idols include Golda Meir.

8.00 Gardener's World: Advice on choosing healthy specimens to plant.

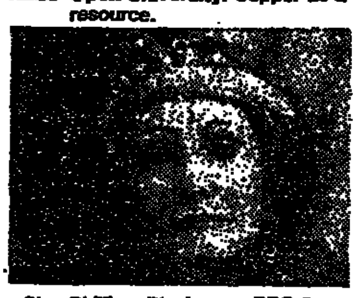
8.25 Newsweek: Slow progress over nuclear disarmament. A report by Margaret Jay.

9.00 Playhouse: How Many Miles to Babylon? (See Choice.)

10.50 Newsnight. Bulletins and comment.

11.35 Friday Night ... Saturday Morning: Actor/playwright Brian Glover is the MC. With Molly Parkin, advertising executive Peter Marsh, and Elaine Loudon.

12.25 Open University: Copper as a resource.


Sian Phillips: Playhouse: BBC 2, 9.00

ITV/LONDON

9.35 For Schools: The subjects are: Reading with Lenny; the Health Service; 1...2...3...Go; Physics; Geography; Homes and families; Oil and petrol; Everything in the Garden's Lovelier (documentary); 11.55 Comic Stories. 12.00 Song Book. 12.10 Once Upon a Time: with Peter Davison. 12.30 Wild, Wild World of Animals: the speedy ostrich (r). 1.00 News from ITN. 1.20 Thames area news. 1.30 Take the High Road: Scottish estate serial. 2.00 After Noon Plus: interviews with Michael Frayn and Paul Eddington, writer and star of the new comedy Noises Off. 2.45 Film: Gasbags* (1940) Venerable British comedy starring the Crazy Gang, with Moore Marriott (the old man in the Will Hay films). The gang, captured by the Nazis, see some plans for a secret weapon on a fellow prisoner's back.

4.15 Dr Snuggles: the story of an inventor. With Peter Ustinov's voice (r). 4.20 Razzmatazz: Pop music show. Groups include The Mood, Modern Romance and Adam and the Ants.

4.45 The Haunting of Cassie Palmer: Episode one of a drama serial about a girl who doesn't want to be a medium like her mother. Co-starring Elizabeth Spriggs as the mother and Helen Probyn as her daughter.

5.15 Square OneBoard game, with Joe Brown as MC. The guests are Duggie Brown and Sandra Dickinson.

5.45 News from ITN. 6.00 The 6 O'Clock Show: Light-hearted news programme, hosted by Michael Aspel. With Janet Street-Porter.

7.00 Family Fortunes: Families compete for prizes. The Birmingham Tubbs versus the Rotherfield Bonwicks.

7.30 Hawaii Five-O: A journalist is murdered and a former astronaut is the suspect.

8.30 The Gaffer: New series begins. Bill Maynard returns as the boss of a small-scale engineering firm. Chris Langham plays his son. Tonight, he pesters his father for a job.

9.00 We'll Meet Again: Episode two of this drama serial about American airmen stationed in Suffolk during the last war. Tonight: the community in an uproar after the local grocer (Ray Smith), who is doggedly anti-American, stirs up trouble after his daughter (Natalie Ogle) gets a goodnight kiss from a lieutenant (Jeff Harding). Starring Susannah York the doctor who saves a sergeant's life.

10.00 News from ITN. 10.30 Bizarre: American-made comedy series.

11.00 The London Programme: Beating the Muggers. A report on muggings in two areas of south London — Lewisham and Brixton — which shows that they're often the work of organized gangs who aren't averse to using weapons such as firearms. Two of these gangs were recently broken up by the police — the Wolves and the Jackals. Muggers and their victims are interviewed.

11.35 Thriller: Only a Scream Away. Hayley Mills stars in this drama about a former inmate of a mental hospital who finds that his former girl friend is going to marry somebody else. Co-starring Gary Collins and Joyce Carey.

12.55 Close. With Robert Kilroy-Silk, MP.

CHOICE

● HOW MANY MILES TO BABYLON? (BBC 2, 9.00) has Prestige Production written all over it. Famed director (Moira Armstrong of Testament of Youth). Famed producer (Innes Lloyd of Fothergill and Speed King). Famed designer (David Myerscough-Jones, of Thérèse Raquin). Famed composer (Geoffrey Burgon, of Brideshead and Tinker, Tailor). Famed actors (Sian Phillips, Barry Foster, Alan MacNaughton). Famed book (Jennifer Johnston, adapted by Derek Mahon). Whether it was worth while bringing all these big guns to bear on Playhouse, you will have to decide for yourself. Certainly the David and Jonathan theme (rich landowner's son and poor peasant lad, inseparable in boyhood, still indivisible on Flanders Fields in the Great War) was ripe for another airing, and Daniel Day-Lewis (rich boy) and Christopher Fairbank (poor boy) manage to keep sentimentality out of their relationship yet still make it affecting, never more so than in the story's shattering closing moments. But the ache that keeps nagging away at the heart of the plot — the division between the classes, and the sub-ache of national differences (the two chums are Irish, their commanding officer quintessentially English) — may have become dulled through familiarity. And was it absolutely necessary for the first half to move so painfully slowly in its apparent determination to mirror practically every line of the book?

● LIFE TRAP (Radio 4, 3.02), Betty Paul's play for Afternoon Theatre, must be the first play ever broadcast in which the central character is a foetus. Not just any old foetus, mind you, but one with very decided views about whose womb it should be in which he/she will rest. The play is, in a word, the complete answer to those who keep saying that there is nothing new under the sun. Remove the device of the foetus, however, and there is not all that much that is original in this tale of a married man who impregnates his girl friend. But perhaps this is rather like saying: remove Hamlet and you've got just another ghost story. Susan Sheridan plays the foetus, or life force or gene — the three are interchangeable — with irritating conviction.

Helen Probyn in The Haunting of Cassie Palmer (ITV, 4.45)

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing. 6.10 Farming Today. 6.30 Today. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 9.00 News. 9.05 Desert Island Discs. Castaway: Petula Clark. 9.45 Feedback. Your views on BBC radio and tv. 10.00 News. 10.02 International Assignment. 10.30 Daily Service. 10.45 Morning Story: 'The Two Taverns' by Alphonse Daudet. 11.00 News. 11.05 Great Families of Britain. Last in series of radio portraits. The [illegible]. 11.50 Bird of the Week: The tawny owl. 12.00 News. 12.02 You and Yours. 12.27 My Word: Panel Game.† 1.00 The World at One: News. 1.40 The Archers. 2.00 News. 2.02 Woman's Hour. 3.00 News. 3.02 Afternoon Theatre 'Life-Tramp' by Betty Paul.† 4.05 Poetry Please!† 4.15 Mollan: After the Crime.† 4.45 Story Time: 'Welsh Fargo' by Harry Secombe (5). 5.00 PM: News Magazine. 6.00 The Six O'Clock News, including Financial Report. 6.30 Going Places. The travel and transport scene. 7.00 News. 7.05 The Archers. 7.20 Pick of the Week.† 8.10 Profile. A personal portrait. 8.30 Any Questions? 9.15 Letter from America by Alistair Cooke. 9.30 Kaleidoscope. 10.00 The World Tonight: News. 10.30 Week Ending.† 11.00 A Book at Bedtime: 'A Confederacy of Dunces' by John Kennedy Toole (5). 11.15 The Financial World Tonight. 11.30 Today in Parliament. 11.45 John Ebdon delves into the BBC Sound Archives. 12.00 News: Weather Report and Forecast.

VHF: 9.05am For Schools: 10.30 Listen With Mother. 11.00 For Schools: 2.00 For Schools: 11.00 Study on 4. Wegweiser and, at 11.30 For Acqui. Ends at 12.00.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. 7.00 News. 7.05 Morning Concert. Handel, Mozart, Bach; records.† 8.00 News. 8.05 Morning Concert (continued) Honegger, Copland, Poulenc; records.† 9.00 News. 9.05 This Week's Composer. Bernstein; records.† 9.55 Piano Duets. Recital: Beethoven, Busoni, Hans Gal, Casella.† 10.40 Modern and Baroque Music. Recital: Handel, Telemann, Hopkins, arr. David Overton.† 11.30 Music at Castle Howard. Chamber music recital: Haydn, Mozart, Schumann.† 1.00 News. 1.05 BBC Manchester Master Concert. Britten, Stravinsky, Tchaikovsky.† 2.55 Choral Music by Brahms. Recital by the BBC Singers.† 3.15 The Busch Quartet Plays Beethoven. Record. 4.00 Choral Evensong in the Abbey Church of St Mary the Virgin, Tewkesbury.† 4.55 News. 5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.† 6.55 Play It Again: Preview.† 7.00 Smoke after our Words. Keith Bosley looks at the tradition of Finnish Folk Poetry and the background to the Kalevala. 8.00 London Philharmonic Orchestra: Concert direct from the Royal Festival Hall, London. Part 1. Walton, Mozart.† 8.50 Lost and Found. Poetry readings. 9.10 Concert: Part 2. Tchaikovsky.† 10.15 Book, Music and Lyrics: A personal view of musicals by Robert Cushman. "The Changing Face of the Lyric".† 11.00 News. 11.05 Szymanowski: arr. Kochanski; records.†

VHF: 6.55am Open University. Includes Bon Accord, Navigating the Earth, Great Britain (1750-1950) and Decorative Art in the 1890s. Open University programmes end at 1.00.

Radio 1

6.0 As Radio 2. 7.0 Mike Read. 9.0 Simon Bates. 11.30 Dave Lee Travis, including 12.30pm Newsbeat. 2.0 Paul Burnett. 5.30 Newsbeat. 5.45 [illegible] 7.0 Andy Peebles. 10.0 The Friday Rock Show with Tommy Vance.† 12.0 Close.

WORLD SERVICE

[illegible]

Radio 2

5.0 Ray Moore.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.0 Jimmy Young.† 12.0 Gloria Hunniford including 1.45 Sports Desk.† 2.0 Ed Stewart including 2.45, 3.45 Sports Desk.† 4.0 David Hamilton including 4.45 Sports Desk.† 5.45 News; Sport 6.0 John Dunn including 6.45 Sports Desk.† 8.0 Barn Dance at the Radio 2 Ballroom.† 8.45 Friday Night is Music Night with Sally Burgess, Pat Whitmore, Geoffrey Chard.† 9.55 Sports Desk. 10.0 Listen to Les starring Les Dawson. 10.30 Anything For a Laugh. The world of comic songs. 11.0 Brian Matthew with Round Midnight. 1.0 Truckers' Hour with Sheila Tracy.† 2.0-5.0 You and the Night and the Music with Tim Gudgin.†

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1 MF 1053kHz/285m or 1089kHz/275m. Radio 2 MF 693kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m. Radio 1/2 VHF 88-91MHz. Radio 3 VHF 90-92.5MHz, MF 1215kHz/247m. Radio 4 LF 200kHz/1500m and VHF 92-95MHz. Greater London Area MF 720kHz/417m. LBC MF 1152khz/261m, VHF 97.3MHz. Capital MF 1548kHz/194m, VHF 95.8MHz. BBC Radio London MF 1458kHz/206m and VHF 94.9MHz. World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC1

BBC CYMRU/WALES 12.57-1.0pm News. 1.45-2.2 Y Cowboi Bach. 2.35-3.0 I Ysgolion. 3.20-3.55 Snooker (Welsh professional championships). 5.5-5.40 Olwynion. 6.0-6.22 Wales Today. 6.50-7.0 Tom and Jerry. 7.0-7.30 Heddiw. 7.30-8.0 Pobol Y Cwm. 10.15-11.5 Week in Week Out. 11.5-11.6 News. 11.6-11.35 Snooker (Welsh professional championships). 11.35-12.57am You Only Live Once (Henry Fonda). Scotland 11.0-11.22am For Schools. 12.55-1.0pm News. 3.20-3.55 Closedown. 6.0-6.22 Reporting Scotland. 10.15-10.45 Goodbye Mr Kent. 10.45-10.50 News. Northern Ireland 11.0-11.22am Closedown. 12.57-1.0pm News. 3.20-3.53 Closedown. 3.53-3.55 News. 6.0-6.22 Scene Around Six. 10.15-10.45 Spotlight. 10.45-10.50 News. 1.5am News. England 6.0-6.22pm Regional magazines. 10.15-10.45 East — Weekend. Midlands — Midlands Tonight. North — Backstage. North East — Coast to Coast. North West — Sweet and Sour. South — Isles Apart. South West — The Attic Archives. West — Public Life. 1.5am Close.

TVS

As London except: 12.30-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Appointment in Honduras (Glenn Ford, Ann Sheridan). Melodrama about adventurer who risks life and limb to deliver cash to the country's president. 5.15 Watch This Space. 5.30-5.45 Coast To Coast. 6.0 Coast to Coast. 6.30-7.00 Friday Sportshow. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 11.00 Film: Devils of Darkness (William Sylvester, Tracy Reed). Vampire and gypsy girl horror tale. 12.40 Company followed by Closedown.

BORDER

As London except: 12.30 pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: John and Julie (Colin Gibson, Lesley Dudley). Comedy following the exploits of two children who run away from home to see the Coronation in 1953. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.30-7.00 That's Hollywood. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 Wintersport. 11.00 Bizarre. 11.30 News. 11.33 Closedown.

GRAMPIAN

As London except: Starts 9.30am-9.35 First Thing. 12.30pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Gangway (Jessie Matthews, Barry Mackay). Musical comedy of reporter who masquerades as maid to a film star in order to get the inside story. 6.00-7.00 North Tonight. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 Film: Dracula AD 1972 (Peter Cushing, Christopher Lee). Chelsea jet set bring Dracula back to life. 12.15am News. 12.20 Closedown.

ULSTER

As London except: 11.34 am-12.00 Face your Future. 12.30 pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 Lunchtime. 2.45-4.15 Film: Black Swan (Tyrone Power, Maureen O'Hara). Swashbuckling movie of how an island governor drove pirates out of the Caribbean. 5.15 Hear Here. 5.30-5.45 Good Evening Ulster. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.30-7.00 Different Strokes. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 Witness. 10.35 Counterpoint Special: Political Forum. 11.35 News at Bedtime, Closedown.

CENTRAL

As London except: 11.35-12.00 Something different. 12.30 pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: House of Seven Gables* (George Sanders, Margaret Lindsay). In seventh-century New England, a jealous brother sends his sister's fiancé to prison. 6.00-7.00 News. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 11.00 News. 11.05 Professional Basketball. 11.35 Film: Die Screaming Marianne (Susan George, Barry Evans). Ruthless judge pursues the last witness to his blackmailing. 1.30 am Closedown.

ANGLIA

As London except: 12.30 pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Time Gentlemen Please* (Eddie Byrne). Lazy old tramp wrecks a village's reputation for hard work. 6.00-7.00 About Anglia. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 11.00 Members Only. 11.30 Film: Mind of Mr Soames (Terence Stamp, Robert Vaughn). In a coma since birth, John Soames is 30 when he faces the world with the brain of a baby, and the body of a man. 1.15am Lent with Luke.

HTV

As London except: 11.50am-12.00 Cartoon. 12.30-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Judgment Deferred (Hugh Sinclair, Helen Shingler). Reporter tries to discover the guilt or innocence of an escaped convict. 5.15-5.45 Benson. 6.00 News. 6.30-7.00 Mr and Mrs. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.28 News. 10.30 Good Neighbour Show. 11.00 Film: Order to Kill (Helmut Berger). Army deserter finds his life threatened. 12.40am Closedown.

HTV CYMRU/WALES

As HTV West except: 11.34am-11.49 About Wales. 12.00-12.10 Ffalabalam. 4.15-4.45 Yr Ynys A'r Ffin. 6.00 Y Dydd. 6.15-6.30 Report Wales. 10.30-11.00 Outlook.

TSW

As London except: 11.55am-12.00 Look and See. 12.30pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Cheaper by the Dozen (Clifton Webb) Comedy, drama and nostalgia in this story of a large family dominated by father. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Today South West. 6.30-7.0 What's Ahead. 7.30-8.30 Hart to Hart. 10.32 News. 10.35 Postscript. 10.40 Mysterious Tales. 10.50 Film: Priest's Wife (Sophia Loren, Marcello Mastroianni). Slapstick and drama as suicidal girl falls in love with a priest. 12.36am Closedown.

GRANADA

As London except: 11.54 am-12.00 Wattoo, Wattoo. 12.30 pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20 Granada Reports. 1.30-2.00 Exchange Flags. 2.30-4.15 Film: Sands of the Desert (Charlie Drake). Meek travel agent, sent to open a new holiday camp, saves a glamorous girl from a ruthless sheik. 6.00 Kick Off. 6.30-7.00 Granada Reports. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 11.00 Week on Friday. 11.30 Film: Revenge (Joan Collins, James Booth). Publican whose daughter is murdered, kidnaps the suspect. 1.10 am Closedown.

SCOTTISH

As London except: 12.30 pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20 News. 1.30-2.00 Square One. 2.45-4.15 Film: Green Grow the Rushes* (Richard Burton, Honor Blackman). Civil servants try to prevent the marshmen of Kent from smuggling. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.25 Sports Extra. 6.45-7.00 Hear Here. 7.30-8.30 Charlie's Angels. 10.30 Ways and Means. 11.00 Bizarre. 11.30 Late Call. 11.35 Streets of San Francisco. 12.30 am Closedown.

TYNE TEES

As London except: Starts 9.25am Good Word. 9.30-9.35 News. 12.30pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 News, Lookaround. 2.45-4.15 Film: Odd Job (David Jason, Graham Chapman). Comedy about distraught husband who tries to arrange his own killing. 6.00 News. 6.02 Sportstime. 6.30-7.30 Northern Life. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 News. 10.32 Friday Live. 12.00 Superstar Profile: Dudley Moore. 12.30am Poet's Corner. 12.40 Closedown.

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 12.30 pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45 Film: Prelude to Fame* (Jeremy Spenser). Drama about a talented Italian peasant boy who achieves fame as a musical prodigy. 6.00 Calendar. 6.30-7.00 Sport. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 11.00 Film: Mirror of Deception (Kim Darby, James Maxwell). Two girls go missing after applying for the same job. 12.25 am Closedown.

CHANNEL

As London except: 11.55am-12.00 Look and See. 12.30pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Cheaper by the Dozen (Clifton Webb). Comedy, drama and nostalgia in this story of a large family dominated by father. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.35-7.00 Brown Study. 7.30-8.30 Hart to Hart. 10.28 News. 10.35 Aujourd'hui en France. 10.40 Mysterious Tales. 10.50 Film: Priest's Wife (Sophia Loren, Marcello Mastroianni) Suicidal girl falls in love with a priest. 12.35am Closedown.

European Law Report

Court of Justice of the European Communities

Discrimination on retiring ages is not unlawful

Burton v British Railways Board

Case 19/81: Preliminary ruling under Article 177 of the EEC Treaty on a reference by the Employment Appeal Tribunal.

Before the President of the First Chamber, Judge G. Bosco, acting as president and Judges A. Touffait, O. Due, P. Pescatore, Lord Mackenzie Stuart, A. O'Keeffe, T. Koopmans, A. Chloros and F. Grevisse. Advocate General: Mr Verloren van Themaat.

[Judgment: February 16, 1982]

Mr Arthur Burton, the appellant, was employed by the British Railways Board, the respondent, who offered voluntary redundancy to some of its employees and a memorandum was drawn up embodying the terms of a collective agreement between management and trade unions on reorganization which included the following paragraph:

"Staff aged 60/65 (male/female) may leave the service under the redundancy and resettlement arrangements when the function in which (they are) employed has been dealt with under organization planning."

Mr Burton applied for voluntary redundancy but was refused because he was under 60 and he complained unsuccessfully to an industrial tribunal under the provisions of the Equal Pay Act 1970, as last amended by the Sex Discrimination Act 1975. He appealed to the Employment Appeal Tribunal where it was conceded on his behalf that by virtue of section 6(4) of the 1975 Act it was not contrary to the Act for an employer to treat a male employee less favourably than he treated a female employee as regards access to voluntary redundancy benefit.

Mr Burton contended however that section 6(4) had to be construed in the light of European Community law and the Employment Appeal Tribunal requested a preliminary ruling concerning inter alia Directive No 76/207/EEC of February 9, 1976.

The principal issue raised by the Employment Appeal Tribunal's questions was whether the requirement that a male worker should have reached the age of 60 in order to be eligible for payment of a voluntary redundancy benefit whereas women workers became eligible at the age of 55 amounted to *discrimination* and, *if so*, whether the relevant provision of Community law might be relied upon in the national courts.

In its judgment the Court of Justice of the European Communities said that in deciding whether the difference in treatment of which the appellant complained was discriminatory within the meaning of the directive, account had to be taken of the relationship between measures such as that at issue and national provisions on normal retirement age.

Under United Kingdom legislation the minimum qualifying age for a state retirement pension was 60 for women and 65 for men.

Council Directive No 79/7/EEC of December 19, 1978 on the progressive implementation of the principle of equal treatment for men and women in matters of social security, provided that the Directive should be without prejudice to the right of member states to exclude from its scope the determination of pensionable age for the purposes of granting old-age and retirement pensions and the possible consequences thereof for other benefits.

It followed that the determination of a minimum pensionable age for social security purposes which was not the same for men as for women did not amount to discrimination prohibited under Community law.

The Court of Justice gave the following answers to the questions asked:

"1. The principle of equal treatment contained in Article 5 of Council Directive No 76/207 of February 9, 1976 applies to the conditions of access to voluntary redundancy benefit paid by an employer to a worker wishing to leave his employment.

"2. The fact that access to voluntary redundancy is available only during the five years preceding the minimum pensionable age fixed by national social security legislation and that that age is not the same for men as for women cannot in itself be regarded as discrimination on grounds of sex within the meaning of Article 5 of Directive No 76/207."

In *Polydor Ltd and Another v Harlequin Record Shops Ltd* (*The Times* February 18), counsel for the defendants was instructed by Sylvester Amiel & Co.

Chancery Division

Law Report February 26 1982

Inland freight depot not eligible for allowance

Copol Clothing Ltd v Hindmarch (Inspector of Taxes)

Before Mr Justice Nourse

[Judgment delivered February 19]

An inland freight depot in Manchester used for the storage of clothing imported into the United Kingdom by sea and air, did not constitute an industrial building in which goods were stored "on their arrival" into the United Kingdom and expenditure on it did not qualify for an allowance under the provisions in section 7(1) (f) (iv) of the Capital Allowances Act 1968.

Mr Justice Nourse so held in the Chancery Division in dismissing an appeal by the importer, Copol Clothing Ltd, from a decision of the General Commissioners for Central Manchester refusing its claim for the allowance in respect of warehouse premises at Sagar Street, Manchester.

The importer, a clothing wholesaler and distributor, used the first floor of a building in Manchester for the warehousing and storage of goods. It imported 90 per cent of its stock, mainly by sea via Southampton, in containers which were transported to the warehouse by rail and/or road. Occasionally stock came by sea to other ports and went directly by road to the warehouse or arrived by air in cartons.

The importer claimed entitlement to an industrial building allowance in respect of expenditure on the warehouse under the Capital Allowances Act 1968 by virtue of section 7(1) which provided: "Subject to the provisions of this section, in this chapter 'industrial building or structure' means a building or structure in use ... (f) for the purposes of a trade which consists in the storage ... (iv) of goods or materials on their arrival by sea or air into any part of the United Kingdom."

Miss Fay Stockton for the importers; Mr Robert Carnwath for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE NOURSE said that the issue in the case concerned the meaning to be attributed to the words in section 7(1)(f)(iv) "on their arrival by sea or air into any part of the United Kingdom". The importer said that in the case of goods coming in containers by sea and not unloaded until after they had got to the warehouse, it would be an unnatural reading of the provision to say that they were not being stored in the warehouse "on their arrival by sea".

The Crown's case was that the material provision supported the practice that the Inland Revenue had adopted of allowing claims only in respect of buildings of the requisite character standing in the vicinity of seaports or airports and not in respect of inland freight depots.

The court's task was to construe that provision in accordance with accepted principles of statutory interpretation. While there was force in the arguments made on the importer's behalf, they could not be accepted. It was more natural to talk about arrival by sea or air into any part of the United Kingdom, if you were intending to refer to arrival at a seaport or an airport rather than an arrival at some inland location.

The commissioners had construed the provision correctly and the appeal had to be dismissed.

Solicitors: Cecil Franks & Co, Manchester; Solicitor of Inland Revenue.

Capital payment to stop rival

Walker (Inspector of Taxes) v The Joint Credit Card Co Ltd

Before Mr Justice Walton

[Judgment delivered February 22]

A payment of £75,000 made by Access (The Joint Credit Card Co Ltd) to eradicate competition from an "aggressive and possibly unscrupulous rival", was a payment of a capital nature and not deductible in the computation of Access's profits for corporation tax purposes.

Mr Justice Walton so stated in allowing an appeal by the Crown from a determination of the special commissioners that had upheld an appeal by Access against an assessment to the tax of £600,000 for its 1975 accounting period.

Mr Robert Carnwath for the Crown; Mr Andrew Thornhill for Access.

MR JUSTICE WALTON said that Access was set up in 1972 by a consortium of four banks to provide a credit card service to compete with Barclaycard. It was intended to operate principally in the United Kingdom but also set sights on becoming part of an international network.

In 1974 it was accepted as a licensee for Interbank, an international association formed to extend credit card services as widely as possible throughout the world. The only other United Kingdom Interbank licensee was Eurocard Ltd, a credit company aimed principally at the tourist industry.

Access did not initially regard Eurocard as a serious competitor but in 1975 a pamphlet was distributed by Eurocard announcing "outstanding new benefits" and which Access considered an illegal inducement to solicit its own Interbank business. Instead of taking legal proceedings, Access agreed with Eurocard to pay it £75,000 in return for Eurocard undertaking to cease credit trading.

The commissioners held that that was a revenue payment because it effected short-term, day-to-day advantages to Access by allowing it to trade as the sole United Kingdom Interbank licensee. But that understated considerably just what Access did obtain. It obtained the total closure of a rival business. It did not consider the payment to be for purely temporary purposes: it considered that Eurocard's erosion of its goodwill and business was far more than a temporary phenomenon.

The payment obtained a particular, permanent result and it was irrelevant that Eurocard might, as the commissioners found, have ceased to trade within a short time without having received anything from Access. Accordingly the payment was a capital payment and not deductible in computing assessable profits.

Solicitors: Solicitor of Inland Revenue, Wilde Sapte.

Parental abuse of process

Nottinghamshire County Council v Q

Parliament intended that there should be no right of appeal from the making of a place of safety order and an application by parents under section 28(6) of the Children and Young Persons Act 1969 for an interim order when the real object behind the application was to obtain from the justices a refusal to make the order and then a direction that the child be returned to the parents was an abuse of the process of the court, Sir John Arnold, President, sitting with Mr Justice Eastham, held in the Divisional Court of the Family Division on February 22. It was impossible to say that such an application was duly made.

Court of Appeal

Bankrupt's discharge plea to go before Chancery judge

In re Stern (a Bankrupt)

Before Lord Justice Lawton, Lord Justice Templeman and Lord Justice Brightman.

[Judgment delivered February 18]

The bankruptcy registrar was wrong not to allow creditors of Mr William George Stern to cross-examine him and two deponents of affidavits on his behalf on his application for discharge from bankruptcy.

The Court of Appeal allowing an appeal by Keyser Ullman Ltd, Four Millbank Nominees Ltd and First National Bank of Chicago from the order of Mr Registrar Dewhurst last August directed that the application be heard by a Chancery judge.

Mr Stanley Brodie, QC and Miss Presiley Baxendale for the creditors; Mr E. C. Evans-Lombe, QC and Mr John Vallar for Mr Stern; Mr Alan Steinfeld for Mr Stern's trustee in bankruptcy; Mr Michael Crystal for the Official Receiver.

LORD JUSTICE LAWTON said that Mr Stern's trustee had received claims amounting to £118,690,524. Against those debts Mr Stern had assets that produced no more than £20,252.

On March 26, 1981 Mr Stern had applied for his discharge. Four Millbank Nominees and Keyser Ullmann had given written notice of opposition on the ground, *inter alia*, that he had "brought on or contributed to his bankruptcy by rash and hazardous speculations" (Bankruptcy Act, 1914, section 26 (3) (*f*)).

They had read three affidavits in support of that ground. Mr Stern had put in three affidavits to support his application for discharge.

The registrar had adjudged that the creditors would not be allowed to cross-examine Mr Stern or two deponents of affidavits. His reason for so deciding revealed a fundamental misunderstanding of what discharge from bankruptcy was all about. He seemed to have thought that the creditors had no financial interest to protect when the bankrupt made his application for discharge save to the extent of any further contribution that he proposed to make.

He also seemed to have thought that on the hearing of an application for discharge it was not right to allow evidence to be called in support of new allegations about the bankrupt's conduct. The creditors could make submissions on the evidence provided by the public examination. If there was any new evidence the proper course was, if necessary, for the public examination to be reinstated.

Creditors were entitled to make submissions to the court to protect their financial interests and to ensure that they and others were never again, or not for some time, exposed to the kind of financial operations that the bankrupt had used to their discomfort. The court's right to question the bankrupt was for the purpose of ensuring that the grant of discharge would not prejudice the public generally.

A creditor had no right to cross-examine the bankrupt, as Mr Brodie had contended, but the registrar in the exercise of his discretion might allow a creditor to cross-examine. In the present case there was a strong case for allowing the creditors to cross-examine Mr Stern, but whether the judge who reheard the application would take the same view was for him.

As to cross-examination of the deponents of the affidavits on Mr Stern's behalf, it would be enough for his Lordship to say that the registrar had misdirected himself in law that the cross-examination of one of the deponents would be irrelevant to any issue that the court had to decide.

The best way of dealing with the application for discharge would be to adjourn it to be heard by a judge of the Chancery Division and for the hearing to start again.

Lord Justice Templeman and Lord Justice Brightman agreed.

Solicitors: Norton, Rose, Botterell & Roche; Nicholson, Graham & Jones; Harold Stern & Co; Treasury Solicitor.

'Public good' power to deport

Regina v Immigration Appeal Trubunal, Ex parte Ullah
Regina v Immigration Appeal Tribunal, Ex parte Cheema
Regina v Immigration Appeal Tribunal, Ex parte Kawol

Before Mr Justice Woolf

[Judgment delivered February 19]

The conduct of a non-patrial who married a patrial to obtain settlement, and had no intention to live permanently with his spouse, was not conducive to the public good, and the Secretary of State had power under section 3(5)(b) of the Immigration Act 1971 to order his deportation.

His Lordship so held in dismissing three applications to the Queen's Bench Division that were heard together for judicial review of three decisions of the Immigration Appeal Tribunal confirming deportation orders.

Sir Charles Fletcher-Cooke, QC, and Mr George Warr for the first and third applicants; Mr K. S. Nathan for the second applicant; Mr Jeremy Sullivan for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE WOOLF said that all three applications involved the extent of the Home Secretary's powers under section 3(5)(b) of the Immigration Act 1971, by which a non-patrial was liable to deportation if the secretary of state deemed his departure to be conducive to the public good.

In each case, what could be loosely described as a marriage of convenience had been entered into.

The power given to the secretary of state under section 3(5)(b) was of a special nature, and could not be relied upon for conduct that had no effect on the public domain.

A marriage of convenience by itself did not affect the social order.

A marriage that was entered into for the specific purpose of obtaining unlimited leave to stay, without the intention to live permanently as man and wife, was akin to fraud. The applicants got something that they knew otherwise they were not entitled to.

It was not in the public good for people to benefit from that sort of conduct. If marriages of that type were in the public good, real anxiety could be caused to others who were not prepared to stoop to that sort of conduct.

It was the element of deceit on the part of the applicants that had an effect on the public domain and an order under section 3(5)(b) was appropriate.

Three unreported cases of the Divisional Court supported his Lordship's conclusion, even if they could be considered as only persuasive, as probably the same arguments were not adduced there: see *R v Immigration Appeal Tribunal, Ex parte M. Singh* (May 3, 1977); *R v Immigration Appeal Tribunal, Ex parte A. Singh* (November 2, 1977); *In Re M. Gomaa* (November 1, 1977).

It was the nature and purpose of each marriage that had to be considered. If the real purpose were to give an artificial cloak, there being no intention to live as man and wife, no union of permanence, there was then a marriage of convenience of a type caught by section 3(5)(b).

Solicitors: Maurice Nadeem & Co; Treasury Solicitor.

MPs protest at 'knockdown' sale of Invincible

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Government's decision to sell HMS Invincible to the Australians for £175m brought protests from Conservative MPs yesterday and a denial from a minister that the 19,500 tonne carrier was being disposed of at a knock-down price.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, questioned in the Commons by Mr Anthony Buck, chairman of the back bench defence committee and former Conservative navy minister, said the sale had enabled the Government to place far more warship orders, this year worth £410m, than would otherwise have been possible.

Mr Buck had asked the Prime Minister to express the concern "we all feel she must share" that the Government had found it necessary to sell off one of the most powerful ships in the Royal Navy.

Mrs Thatcher's reply did little to soothe Conservative defence experts who have been vainly attempting in private meetings with Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Defence, to dissuade him from going through with the sale.

Mr Nott is being criticized by Conservative MPs who feel that they should have put up a sturdier fight with the Treasury to retain the ship, which is due to be delivered to the Australians late next year when one of her sister ships, Illustrious, will be operational. The other, Ark Royal, joins the fleet in 1985.

Thirty-six Tory MPs had yesterday signed a Commons motion, tabled last week, urging the Government to increase defence spending to make the sale unnecessary.

The defence White Paper published last June envisaged only two of the carriers being in service and the third, if retained, would have been "mothballed". The Government's argument is that it is to better spend the £175m, which was also the cost of construction, within the naval programme than have a carrier in reserve.

But Mr Winson Churchill, Conservative MP for Stretford and vice-chairman of the defence committee, said last night that it was a sad and regrettable decision which had been conceived not through consideration of the threat facing the country but for the "budgetary niceties of cash limits with the idea of getting some cash in the kitty".

He said the Government would be getting £90m this year and £85m next year, half the cost of building a replacement

Mr Geoffrey Pattie, Under Secretary of State for Defence Procurement, said the Government was not selling the ship at a knock-down price. It had made the Australians what it felt was a "keen price offer", given that the Australian Government was considering other tenders for a ne carrier.

Sea change, page 4



Nicholas Hill, aged 15, examining a nine-week-old albatross chick, hatched for the first time in captivity at Bourton-on-the-Water, Gloucestershire, after he found the egg in the Falkland Islands.

'Halt Embassy demolition'

By Nicholas Timmins

The Greater London Council is calling on the Foreign Office and the Department of the Environment to halt the destruction of historic embassy buildings after the unauthorized demolition of the embassy of the German Democratic Republic in Belgrave Square.

Only the facade of the listed Grade II stuccoed building, part of the palatial 1825 design by George Basavi for the London square, remains.

Mr Norman Howard, chairman of the GLC's historic buildings panel, said last night that destruction of the building was a tragedy. "We are absolutely appalled. It was a beautiful building but it appears there is nothing we can do."

The destruction of the building follows similar demolition at the Chinese Embassy in Portland Place in 1980.

The GDR had applied in 1979 to make radical changes to the building. They were rejected. A more limited scheme was agreed, but Mr Howard said that in the past few weeks "they appear to have entirely ignored that and demolished everything inside the building. It is just a shell".

Normally the GLC would be able to prosecute; but it appeared likely that the building would be considered as foreign territory and no action could be taken.

The GLC will ask the Government to site embassies in modern office blocks rather than historic buildings.

CBI keeps up pressure for business Budget

By Peter Hill, Industrial Editor

Britain's business leaders yesterday maintained their pressure on the Government to ensure that next month's Budget is strongly directed towards industry and commerce.

Sir Terence Beckett, director general of the Confederation of British Industry, told a meeting of Midlands businessmen that the time had come to dig Britain out of recession.

In a speech, which will be seen as a riposte to the Prime Minister's speech to the Engineering Employers' Federation with its hints that the room for manoeuvre was being constrained by falling oil prices, Sir Terence said that his members looked to a business Budget on March 9.

But while praising the achievements of the Government in the broad economic policy it had followed, Sir Terence emphasized that the private sector had borne the brunt of the recession for too long.

In a reference to Mrs Thatcher's speech, the CBI director general said: "We understand that the lower price of oil may be a problem—but surely only a temporary problem. We didn't get much help when the price of oil was high. The Government can't have it both ways."

Admitting that options were fairly limited, he said that profit margins had been trimmed to the bone and competitiveness of British industry remained below major foreign rivals.

Sir Terence underlined the CBI's principal advice to Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, to ease the burden on industry by cutting the employers' National Insurance Surcharge. "It is just hogwash to say that cutting NIS is too indiscriminate an assistance. It was a burden to the whole of enterprise when it was imposed", Sir Terence said.

But the business community is still divided about what the Chancellor should do. The right-wing Institute of Directors, which opposes the CBI's calls for a £3,000m reflation, reaffirmed those differences again yesterday.

SDP struggles to sweep clean its own stables

Continued from page 1

Both sides accuse the other of wanting to pick the fight, which, in a roundabout way, would seem to prove them right. The councillors have in their possession a handwritten notebook discovered after a caucus meeting of the National and Local Government Officers Association some weeks ago.

It contains notes of a meeting which discussed in great detail tactics the union could take in a confrontation with the council. They included refusing to pay pensioners' telephone bills

For its part, the union simply points to the behaviour of SDP leaders during the strike. The dispute started when a temporary worker in the housing department was given a full-time job which was withdrawn when he arrived to take it. The man refused to accept this and was suspended on full pay. On Wednesday night, the council's disciplinary committee cleared him of misconduct, a decision which should have paved the way to a swift settlement.

But when the return to work was being negotiated, the council leaders told the union that one of the children's homes shut in the strike would not reopen. No sackings were involved, but it was, nevertheless, a particularly inflammatory way of introducing into the proceedings a topic which the council knew would be badly received.

Mr Patrick Haynes, a Labour member of the authority, said yesterday: "It certainly seems clear that the council want to be able to lay down the law and get their way and Nalgo will resist. They want great money cuts and redundancies. There is a very big fight coming."

Mr Evans vehemently denied that the council wanted to take on the union. "The last thing we want in the run up to an election is a fight with the unions. The whole thing is political. The abuse we got proved to be political."

The Islington affair is clearly embarrassing for the SDP nationally. Mr Evans says he has had no contact with national officials.

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Was it Canada, Canavan or cannabis?

Mr Peter Temple-Morris (Leominster, C) yesterday accused Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, of favouring "the de-criminalization of Canada". Mr Steel shook his head in order to deny it, as any respectable politician would.

The charge was made during Prime Minister's question time in the form of an inquiry to Mrs Thatcher. She hastened to make clear that: "The leader of the Liberal Party might be in favour of it, but I'm not in favour of the de-criminalization of Canada."

Later, one expressed to a colleague some satisfaction at the strong line that the Prime Minister had taken on this controversial topic only to be informed that Mr Temple-Morris had actually said Mr Steel was in favour of "the de-criminalization of cannabis." Thus Mrs Thatcher had, in my view, missed the whole point of the issue.

It was another tragic case of the industrial disease with which those of us who work in the depths of this column must live day by day as a matter of course: Commons ear. The public often forgets that there is a social cost involved in providing these words.

One assumed that it was one's colleague who had got it right, and that they were talking about cannabis. On the other hand, Canada is responsible for unleashing the most criminally boring leglislation in the history of our Parliament, although probably not in the history of theirs.

Members flee the chamber whenever the Canada Bill is announced, apart from the group of main line proceduralists who "shoot up" on this kind of thing, as I think the term has it.

The Bill was last seen on Monday. A procedure-crazy Mr Enoch Powell was trying to talk it to death, all but talking to death the rest of us in the process.

Mr Francis Pym, the Leader of the House, revealing forthcoming business yesterday, announced two more days of the measure soon. Members groaned. On reflection, then, there was overwhelming opposition to the de-criminalization of Canada yesterday.

An alternative reading, however, is that what Mr Temple-Morris and the Prime Minister were deploring was de-criminalization of Canavan.

We are constantly being assured by the sophisticated that consumption of Mr Dennis Canavan (Stirlingshire West, Lab) is harmless. College kids who do it at parties, such as polytechnic Labour parties, suffer no lasting harmful effects, it is argued. One would agree if it stopped there. But the argument of people like Mr Temple-Morris and the Prime Minister is that soft Canavan leads on to such hard substances as Tatchell. More research is needed.

I admit to having been pleasantly zonked on Canavan all week. One cannot resist a man who lives in such a permanent state of outrage and suspicion. A joint of Canavan at question time somehow makes life seem more exciting than it really is, more unreal, more creative. On Wednesday, it may be remembered, he got away with suggesting that the Prime Minister was insane, and he manoeuvred Mr Nicholas Fairbairn into accusing him of having hairy lips. (A notable double).

Yesterday Mr Canavan came up with a Scottish judge who had thrice failed to become a Tory MP, and for that reason, according to Mr Canavan, was misusing his appointment to the Boundaries Commission to create a new safe Tory seat in Scotland. Mr Pym, replying, patiently explained that the last time the judge stood for Parliament was in the 1960s, that he had originally not wanted to go on the Commission, and that he was involved only with boundaries in a part of Scotland in which he had not been a candidate.

Mr Canavan heard all this with deep satisfaction. There you are, he seemed to be saying to himself, the man's a rogue. Next week, one hopes, Canavan on Canada and, if possible, on cannabis.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

New exhibitions

Bronze sculpture, paintings, drawings, theatre designs, etchings and aquatints by Michael Ayrton, City Art Centre, 2 Market Street, Edinburgh; Mon to Sat 10 to 5; (from today until March 27).

Etchings by Jacki Parry, Garden Gallery, Darlington; Mon to Fri 10 to 7.30, Sat 10 to 12; (from today until March 26).

Last chance to see

Watercolours and drawings by Joseph Crawhall; and French watercolours and drawings, Art Gallery and Museum, Kelvingrove, Glasgow; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (both end Sun).

Art of the Edo Period of Japan, 1600-1868, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford; Mon to Sat 10 to 4, Sun 2 to 4; (ends Sun).

Photographer as Printmaker, Castle Museum, Nottingham; daily 10 to 4.45; (ends Sun).

Paintings by Philip Reeves, Crawford Centre for the Arts, University of St Andrews; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5; (ends Sun).

A London Street Market, photographs by Monasti Kessler, London Tourist Board Bookshop, Victoria Station, SW1; 9.15 to 5.45; (ends today).

Flowers of the coast and other water plants, by Mary Grierson, Spink, 5-7 King Street, St James's, SW1; 9.30 to 5.30; (ends today).

Ballet Designs by Mike Becket, Cockpit Theatre, Gateforth Street, NW8; 11 to 8; (ends today).

Women Naive Painters, Wylma Wayne Fine Art, 17 Old Bond Street, W1; 10.30 to 6; (ends today).

Paintings and sculpture by Victor Neep, National Poetry Centre, 21 Earls Court Square, SW5; 10 to 5; (ends today).

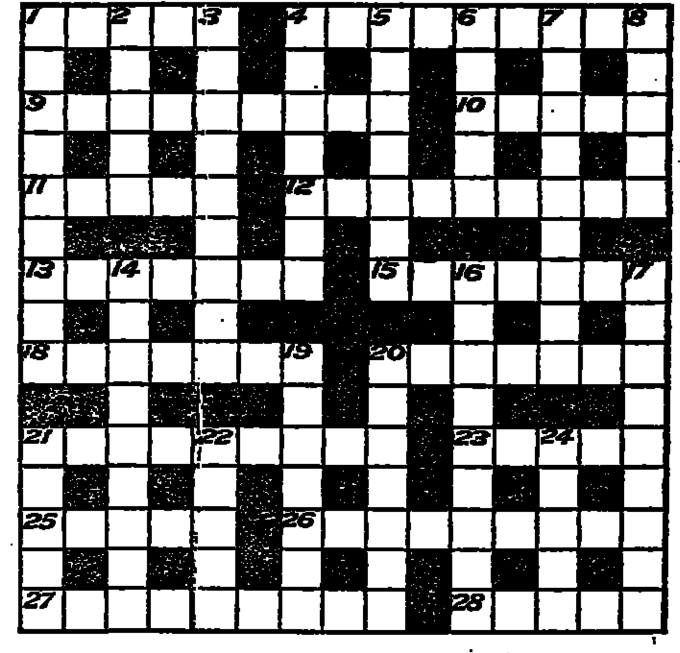
Talks, lectures

The Rule of Law in a Free Society, by Mr Geoffrey Rippon, QC, MP, Cornwallis Lecture Theatre, University of Kent, Canterbury, 6.

Music

Concert by Northern Sinfonia of England, Stockton Parish Church, Stockton, 7.45.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No. 15,766



ACROSS

1 To show myself not so bright, I'm next to bottom (5)
4 Scene-shifter with a neat napper (9)
9 Michael was one to bend 24 out of shape (9)
10 Unpleasant arm takes Jack round to doctor (1-4)
11 Pen — the French way of writing (5)
12 Two articles with printing design (American) that's similar (9)
13 Job in beer for Paul for instance (7)
15 Very open display of boredom (7)
18 Flier taking part in the quickest relay race (7)
20 Lettish sort of emblem (7)
21 Gang from Irish city, — the epitome of crookedness (4-5)
23 Fly back round the West, where you may hear this (5)
25 Go on holiday (5)
26 It heralds change in her garb (9)
27 Cleaning this car's a mistake (9)
28 Hostile soldiers you once surrounded in retreat (5)

DOWN

1 Stem Jack's way up (9)
2 After a month, track is run down (5)
3 One has dug into a mere chop (4-5)
4 Traps a saucy lass (7)
5 "Philomel with melody Sing in our sweet —" (*M N Dream*) (7)
6 Round, eccentric, upstanding legislator (5)
7 Scientist turns up a lot of mud. See the point? (9)
8 Military transport poses a problem (5)
14 Watching man going after job, but no opening (9)
16 A round figure measurement (9)
17 Depression over boy's cap (9)
19 Charles hid in the trees (7)
20 Near to minors (7)
21 Pain in the tummy and neck I caught (5)
22 Capital of Spain — that's an inverted city (5)
24 Fish's point of view (5)

Solution of Puzzle No. 15,765

Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow

Auctions viewing today

Bonhams, Montpelier Street: English and Continental ceramics and works of art, 9 to 10.50. Christie's, King Street: Decorative, sporting and topographical prints, caricatures and maps, 9.15 to 4.30. Christie's, South Kensington: Dolls, 9.15 to 12; Art Nouveau and Art Deco, 9.15 to 12; Old and modern silver, 9.15 to 4.30; English and Continental prints, 9.15 to 4.30. Phillips, Blenheim Street: Silver, 9 to 10.30; watercolours and drawings; prints; furniture, carpets and objects, all 9 to 4.30. Sotheby's, Bond Street: Continental pottery; ballet and theatre material; medals, all 9.30 to 4.30. Sotheby's, Belgravia: Furniture, clocks and watches, 9.30 to 4.30.

Sporting fixtures

Football: Fourth division, Colchester v Rochdale, Stockport v Wigan, both 7.30.

Racing: Meetings at Kempton Park, 1.30 and Southwell, 1.35.

Hockey: Women's home countries B internationals, Manchester, 2.30; Men's indoor club finals, Crystal Palace.

Badminton: England v Japan, Gateshead, 6.30.

Rowing: Torpids and Lents bumping races at Oxford and Cambridge Universities.

Motor rallying: Mintex Rally, York, 7.

Squash rackets: Lookers' Masters, Prestwich, 6.30.

Snooker: Welsh professional championships, Ebbw Vale.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Private Members' Bills: Rating (Abolition) Bill and Succession to the Crown Bill, second readings.

Food prices

Citrus fruits are still good quality—oranges, grapefruit and lemons all good value. Best apple buys are English Cox's and French Golden Delicious, and Cape plums are particularly good value. All cabbages remain cheap; cauliflowers a little dearer, and Brussel sprouts are of variable quality. All root vegetables prices are low now and cucumber prices are falling, but English and Israeli hothouse tomatoes remain fairly expensive.

Meat prices are fairly stable; hand of pork is slightly cheaper at 88 to 93p per pound, and shoulder of lamb at 76 to 82p.

The papers

Commenting on events at Wormwood Scrubs, the Daily Mirror says: "The overcrowding, insanitary and disgusting conditions in so many prisons are lighting a fuse; we must not be surprised when the explosion comes."

The Daily Mail blames high youth unemployment in Britain on union insistence on high minimum wages: "In countries like W Germany, Holland and Japan wage differentials between teenagers and grown-ups are much larger, and youth unemployment is correspondingly less acute."

Le Matin yesterday summed up President Reagan's speech as "dollars for the goodies and weapons against the baddies". The New York Times, while praising the boldness and generosity of his Caribbean policy, protested at the speech's "shrill and unsettling coda": virtually consigning Nicaragua to the Soviet camp and offering an open-ended commitment to El Salvador.

The Christian Science Monitor said: "Security against a communist tide will not be gained by military means . . . only when the people have hope of a better future".

Roads

London and South-east: M4: Westbound lane closures between junctions 8/9 and 10 near Reading, 9.30 am to 4 pm; also eastbound between Slough and Langley. Blackwall Tunnel: Delays from 10 am to 3 pm daily. A2: Roadworks eastbound on New Cross Road between Deptford High Street and New Cross station.

Midlands: A45: Temporary signals near junction 16 of the M1; also between Wellingborough and Little Irchester, Northamptonshire. A49/A5: Roadworks in Shrewsbury. A42: Traffic signals at Alverley, Shropshire.

Wales and West: A46: Temporary signals at Swanswick between Bath and Stroud. M4: Lane closure between junctions 16 (Swindon) and 17 (Chippenham).

North: A59: Temporary signals at Skipton, Yorkshire. A56: Roadworks at Hoole roundabout, Chester. A533: Lane closures at Runcorn, Cheshire.

Scotland: A9: Roadworks S of Ballinvig; traffic signal for heavy vehicles. A83: Temporary diversion and single line traffic wiht lights SW of Inverary. A93: Single line traffic N of Bridge of Cally.

Information supplied by the AA.

Rail

A guards strike yesterday at Liverpool Street may affect today's services on Shenfield/Southend line. Latest information on Travelline: 01-246 8030.

Sea

An all-out strike of Portuguese harbour pilots is preventing ships entering or leaving the country's ports until midnight tonight. Further limited action may cause continuing disruption.

Air

British Airways expect to operate about 85 per cent of their European and domestic flights from Heathrow today; shuttle and long haul flights are unaffected.

Top 10 films

The top ten films in London:

1 Death Wish II
2 Arthur
3 Dragonslayer
4 Gallipoli
5 Chariots of Fire/Gregory's Girl
6 Body Heat
7 Fort Apache, The Bronx
8 Ragtime
9 The French Lieutenant's Woman
10 American Werewolf in London

The top five in the provinces:

1 Sleeping Beauty
2 Condorman
3 Fort Apache, The Bronx
4 Dragonslayer
5 Arthur

Compiled by Screen International

New law

New laws concerning company and business names come into force today with the implementation of Part II of the Companies Act 1981. The Registry of Business Names is abolished and businesses are relieved of the obligation to register. To enable those dealing with such traders to know the identity of the owners, all businesses except those trading under the names of their owners will need to display their owners' names and addresses at business premises and on business stationery, and to supply this information on request to any customer or supplier.

Two guidance notes: *Disclosure of Business Ownership* and *Company Names*, available free from the Department of Trade, Guidance Notes Section, 55 City Road, London EC1Y 1BB. A leaflet for consumers is available at Citizen Advice Bureaux.

Anniversary today

Victor Hugo was born at Besançon, 1802.

The Pound

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.78	1.70
Austria Sch	32.00	30.00
Belgium Fr	89.00	84.50
Canada $	2.31	2.22
Denmark Kr	15.20	14.40
Finland Mkk	8.67	8.22
France Fr	11.50	10.90
Germany DM	4.53	4.28
Greece Dr	117.00	110.00
Hongkong $	11.17	10.57
Ireland Pt	1.27	1.22
Italy Lir	2395.00	2295.00
Japan Yn	456.00	430.00
Netherlands Gld	4.96	4.70
Norway Kr	11.50	10.90
Portugal Esc	130.50	123.50
South Africa Rd	2.10	1.95
Spain Pta	192.50	183.50
Sweden Kr	11.06	10.48
Switzerland Fr	3.60	3.38
USA $	1.89	1.82
Yugoslavia Dnr	98.00	92.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

London: The *FT* Index closed down 0.8 at 551.8.

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Weather

Frontal troughs over the country will be slow moving.

6 am to midnight

London, SE, E England, East Anglia: Rather cloudy, but mostly dry; wind S light; max temp 4 or 5C (39 to 43F).

Central S, Central N, Midlands, Channel Islands: Mostly cloudy, rain spreading from W; wind S, light; max temp 6 or 7C (43 to 45F).

SW England, Wales: Cloudy with occasional rain; wind mainly S, moderate or fresh; max temp 7 to 9C (45 to 48F).

NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland: Cloudy with occasional rain; wind S, moderate or fresh; max temp 6 or 7C (43 to 45F).

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee, Aberdeen, Glasgow: Mostly cloudy, rain spreading from W; wind S, moderate; max temp 5 or 6C (41 to 43F).

Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Mostly cloudy with occasional rain; wind S, fresh or strong; max temp 4 or 5C (39 to 41F).

Argyll, NW Scotland: Cloudy, occasional rain; wind SW, strong; max temp 6 or 7C (43 to 45F).

N Ireland: Cloudy, rain, becoming showery; wind SW, moderate or fresh; max temp 6C (43F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday: Changeable, rain at times, but also sunny intervals; temp near normal; some overnight frost and fog patches.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Straits of Dover: Wind S, fresh, locally strong; sea moderate or rough. English Channel (E): Wind S, veering W, strong; sea rough. St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind S, veering W, strong to gale; sea very rough.

Sun rises: 6.53 am. Sun sets: 5.35 pm. Moon rises: 8.22 am. Moon sets: 8.44 pm. First quarter: March 2.

Lighting up time

London 6.05 pm to 6.21 am
Bristol 6.15 pm to 6.31 am
Edinburgh 6.10 pm to 6.40 am
Manchester 6.10 pm to 6.32 am
Penzance 6.29 pm to 6.41 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud, d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	s	6	43	Guernsey	f	8	46
Birmingham	r	4	39	Inverness	c	5	41
Blackpool	r	6	43	Jersey	c	8	46
Bristol	c	7	45	London	c	4	39
Cardiff	c	7	45	Manchester	d	4	39
Edinburgh	c	7	45	Newcastle	c	3	37
Glasgow	f	8	46	Ronaldsway	c	7	45

Highest and lowest

Highest day temp: Penzance 11C (52F). Lowest day max: Waddington, Cottesmore 2C (36F). Highest rainfall: Machrihanish 1.2in. Highest sunshine: Falmouth 8.5hr.

London

Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 5C (41F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 1C (34F). Humidity: 6 pm, 67 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, a trace. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,007.4 millibars, rising.

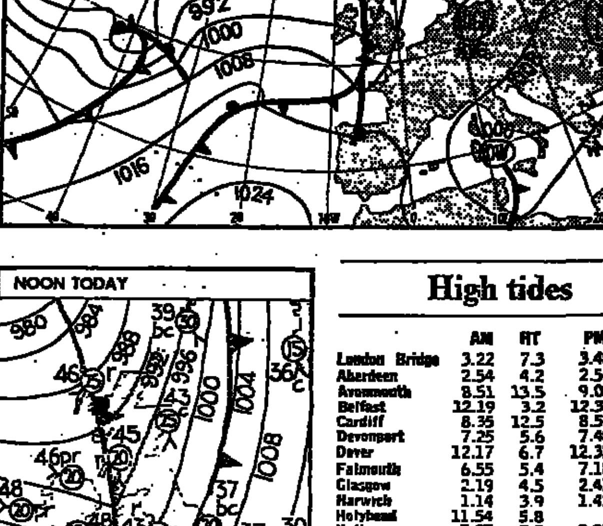
1,000 millibars=29.53in.

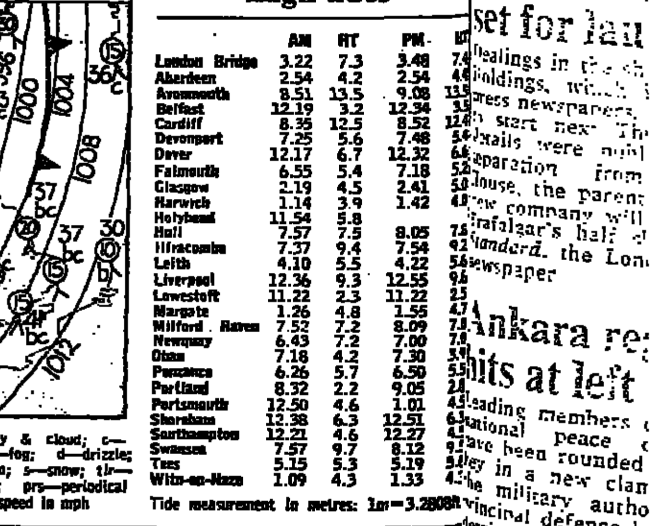
Satellite predictions

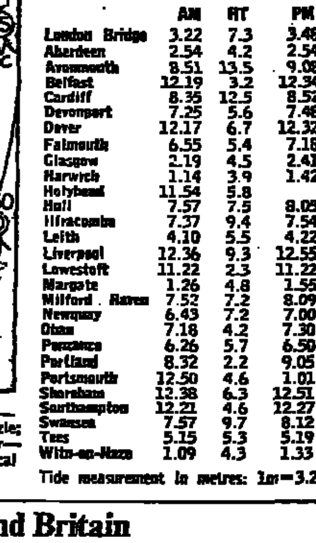
Figures give time of visibility, where rising, maximum elevation, and direction of setting. Asterisk denotes entering or leaving eclipse.

MANCHESTER: Cosmos 1220: 1940-1947; NW; 55SW; SSE*. Cosmos 1286: (Feb 27) 5.20-5.22; NNW; 10N; NNE. Cosmos 880R: 19.53-19.56; NW; 50NNE; NNE*. Cosmos 1306: (Feb 27) 5.21-5.23; N; 10N; NNE. Cosmos 1337: 18.26-18.35; NW; 35WSW; SSW. Bhaskar 2: 1943-1946; WSW; 50SSW; SSW*. Salyut 6: (Feb 27) 4.43-4.44; SE; 25SE; ESE and 6.15-6.19; WSW; 20SSW; SSE.

Predictions supplied by Earth Satellite Unit, Aston University.







b—blue sky; bc—blue sky & cloud; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; prs—periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph

High tides

	AM	HT	PM	?
London Bridge	3.22	7.3	3.48	7.4
Aberdeen	2.54	4.2	2.54	4.6
Avonmouth	8.51	13.5	9.08	13.5
Belfast	12.19	3.2	12.34	3.5
Cardiff	8.35	12.5	8.52	12.4
Devonport	7.25	5.6	7.48	5.4
Dover	12.17	6.7	12.32	6.6
Falmouth	6.55	5.4	7.18	5.2
Glasgow	2.19	4.5	2.41	5.0
Harwich	1.14	3.9	1.42	4.0
Holyhead	11.54	5.8		
Hull	7.57	7.5	8.05	7.5
Ilfracombe	7.37	9.4	7.54	9.2
Leith	4.10	5.5	4.22	5.6
Liverpool	12.36	9.3	12.55	9.6
Lowestoft	11.22	2.3	11.22	2.5
Margate	1.26	4.8	1.55	4.7
Milford Haven	7.52	7.2	8.09	7.3
Newquay	6.43	7.2	7.00	7.0
Oban	7.18	4.2	7.30	3.9
Penzance	6.26	5.7	6.50	5.5
Portland	8.32	2.2	9.05	2.4
Portsmouth	12.50	4.6	1.01	4.5
Shoreham	12.38	6.3	12.51	6.1
Southampton	12.21	4.6	12.27	4.[illegible]
Swansea	7.57	9.7	8.12	9.[illegible]
Tees	5.15	5.3	5.19	5.[illegible]
Walton-on-Naze	1.09	4.3	1.33	4.[illegible]

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft

Around Britain

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarborough	0.4	—	4	39	Cloudy	Penzance	8.2	.69	11	52	Sunny
Bridlington	0.5	—	3	37	Cloudy	Jersey	6.3	.17	9	48	Rain
Cromer	6.6	—	5	41	Sun pds	Ilfracombe	7.5	.19	8	46	Sunny
Lowestoft	0.1	—	3	37	Cloudy	Tenby	8.0	.02	9	48	Sunny
Clacton	4.5	—	3	37	Sun ints	Anglesey	6.8	.14	9	48	Rain
Margate	5.6	—	4	39	Sun pds	Colwyn Bay	2.4	.13	8	46	Cloudy
Folkestone	6.9	—	4	39	Sun pds	Southport	2.7	.21	7	45	Drizzle
Hastings	1.8	—	4	39	Cloudy	Blackpool	3.0	.24	8	46	Rain
Eastbourne	—	—	5	41	Cloudy	Morecambe	3.0	.16	7	45	Drizzle
Worthing	—	.01	5	41	Rain	Douglas	6.6	.43	8	46	Sun pds
Littlehampton	—	.08	4	39	Rain	Eskdalemuir	1.1	.13	8	46	Shower
Bognor Regis	—	.17	5	41	Rain	Prestwick	5.5	.17	9	48	Rain
Bournemouth	—	.28	6	43	Showers	Abbotsinch	4.4	.13	9	48	Shower
Poole	—	.30	8	46	Showers	Tiree	5.9	.80	9	48	Showers
Swanage	—	.28	7	45	Rain	Stornoway	2.7	.28	7	45	Showers
Weymouth	4.7	.25	10	50	Rain	Lerwick	—	.02	6	43	Rain
Exmouth	7.3	.35	10	50	Sunny	Wick	0.4	—	6	43	Cloudy
Teignmouth	7.6	.23	10	50	Sunny	Kinloss	1.0	—	8	46	Cloudy
Torquay	7.2	.17	10	50	Sun pds	Dyce	—	—	7	45	Cloudy
Falmouth	8.5	—	10	50	Sunny	Leuchars	2.1	.08	8	46	Rain

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	c	10	50	Chicago				Luxembourg	s	−3	27	Rhodes	f	16	[illegible]
Akrotiri	s	18	64	Cologne	s	0	32	Madrid	f	10	50	Riyadh	s	21	[illegible]
Alexandria	f	21	70	Casablanca	c	14	57	Majorca	c	11	52	Rio de Janeiro			
Algiers	f	14	57	Corfu	c	12	54	Malaga	f	12	54	Rome			
Amsterdam	f	0	32	Dallas				Malta	f	13	55	Salzburg	c	−1	[illegible]
Athens	r	13	55	Dublin	f	7	45	Mexico City				Sao Paulo			
Bahrain	s	17	63	Dubrovnik	c	9	48	Miami				San Francisco			
Barbados				Faro	f	16	61	Milan	s	4	39	Santiago			
Barcelona	c	3	37	Florence	s	8	46	Montreal				Seoul	s	6	[illegible]
Beirut	s	17	63	Frankfurt	f	−1	30	Moscow	c	−5	23	Singapore	f	31	[illegible]
Belgrade	sn	0	32	Funchal	f	18	64	Munich	c	−3	27	Stockholm	c	0	[illegible]
Berlin	s	1	34	Geneva	f	0	32	Nairobi	s	31	88	Strasbourg	c	−3	[illegible]
Bermuda				Gibraltar	r	14	57	Naples	f	11	52	Tel Aviv	s	17	[illegible]
Biarritz	c	9	48	Helsinki	c	0	32	New York				Tenerife	f	19	[illegible]
Boulogne	s	3	37	Innsbruck	f	−2	28	Nice	f	10	50	Tokyo	s	8	[illegible]
Bordeaux	c	5	41	Istanbul	c	14	57	Oslo	sn	−3	27	Toronto			
Boston				Jeddah	s	26	79	Ottawa				Tunis	f	14	[illegible]
Brussels	s	1	34	Johannesb'g	c	23	73	Paris	c	2	36	Valencia	f	12	[illegible]
Budapest	c	5	41	Las Palmas	f	19	66	Peking	s	11	52	Venice	c	1	[illegible]
Cairo	s	25	77	Lisbon	s	13	55	Prague	s	−1	30	Vienna	sn	0	[illegible]
Cape Town	s	21	70	Locarno	s	4	39	Perth	f	33	91	Warsaw	c	2	[illegible]
Casablanca	c	14	57	Los Angeles				Reykjavik	f	4	39	Zurich	f	−3	[illegible]